#### HISTORY OF MODERN PHILOSOPHY

From Nicolas of Cusa to the Present Time

by

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\_THIRD AMERICAN FROM THE SECOND GERMAN EDITION\_

TRANSLATED WITH THE AUTHOR'S SANCTION BY A.C. ARMSTRONG, JR. \_Professor of Philosophy in Wesleyan University\_

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## TRANSLATOR'S PREFACE.

The aim of this translation is the same as that of the original work. Each

is the outcome of experience in university instruction in philosophy, and

is intended to furnish a manual which shall be at once scientific and

popular, one to stand midway between the exhaustive expositions of the

larger histories and the meager sketches of the compendiums. A pupil of

Kuno Fischer, Fortlage, J.E. Erdmann, Lotze, and Eucken among others,

Professor Falckenberg began his career as \_Docent\_ in the university of



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Jena. In the year following the first edition of this work he became

\_Extraordinarius\_ in the same university, and in 1888 \_Ordinarius\_ at

Erlangen, choosing the latter call in preference to an invitation to Dorpat

as successor to Teichmüller. The chair at Erlangen he still holds. His work

as teacher and author has been chiefly in the history of modern philosophy.

Besides the present work and numerous minor articles, he has published the

following: \_Ueber den intelligiblen Charakter, zur Kritik der Kantischen

Freiheitslehre\_ 1879; \_Grundzüge der Philosophie des Nicolaus Cusanus\_,

1880-81; and \_Ueber die gegenwärtige Lage der deutschen Philosophie\_, 1890

(inaugural address at Erlangen). Since 1884-5 Professor Falckenberg has

also been an editor of the \_Zeitschrift für Philosophie und philosophische

Kritik\_, until 1888 in association with Krohn, and after the latter's

death, alone. At present he has in hand a treatise on Lotze for a German

series analogous to Blackwood's Philosophical Classics, which is to be

issued under his direction. Professor Falckenberg's general philosophical

position may be described as that of moderate idealism. His historical

method is strictly objective, the aim being a free reproduction of the

systems discussed, as far as possible in their original terminology and

historical connection, and without the intrusion of personal criticism.

The translation has been made from the second German edition (1892),

with still later additions and corrections communicated by the author in

manuscript. The translator has followed the original faithfully but

not slavishly. He has not felt free to modify Professor Falckenberg's

expositions, even in the rare cases where his own opinions would have led

him to dissent, but minor changes have been made wherever needed to fit the

book for the use of English-speaking students. Thus a few alterations have

been made in dates and titles, chiefly under the English systems and from

the latest authorities; and a few notes added in elucidation of portions

of the text. Thus again the balance of the bibliography has been somewhat

changed, including transfers from text to notes and vice versa and a few

omissions, besides the introduction of a number of titles from our English

philosophical literature chosen on the plan referred to in the preface

to the first German edition. The glossary of terms foreign to the German

reader has been replaced by a revision and expansion of the index, with the

analyses of the glossary as a basis. Wherever possible, and this has been

true in all important cases, the changes have been indicated by the usual signs.

The translator has further rewritten Chapter XV., Section 3, on recent

British and American Philosophy. In this so much of the author's

(historical) standpoint and treatment as proved compatible with the aim of

a manual in English has been retained, but the section as a whole has been

rearranged and much enlarged.

The labor of translation has been lightened by the example of previous

writers, especially of the translators of the standard treatises of

Ueberweg and Erdmann. The thanks of the translator are

also due to several

friends who have kindly aided him by advice or

assistance: in particular to

his friend and former pupil, Mr. C.M. Child, M.S., who participated in the

preparation of a portion of the translation; and above all to Professor

Falckenberg himself, who, by his willing sanction of the work and his

co-operation throughout its progress, has given a striking example of scholarly courtesy.

A.C.A., Jr.

Wesleyan University, June, 1893.

#### PREFACE TO THE FIRST GERMAN EDITION.

Since the appearance of Eduard Zeller's \_Grundriss der Geschichte der

griechischen Philosophie\_ (1883; 3d ed. 1889) the need has become even more

apparent than before for a presentation of the history of modern philosophy

which should be correspondingly compact and correspondingly available for

purposes of instruction. It would have been an ambitious undertaking to

attempt to supply a counterpart to the compendium of this honored scholar,

with its clear and simple summation of the results of his much admired five

volumes on Greek philosophy; and it has been only in regard to practical

utility and careful consideration of the needs of students--concerning

which we have enjoyed opportunity for gaining accurate information in the

review exercises regularly held in this university--that we have ventured

to hope that we might not fall too far short of his example.

The predominantly practical aim of this \_History\_--it is intended to serve

as an aid in introductory work, in reviewing, and as a substitute for

dictations in academical lectures, as well as to be a guide for the

wider circle of cultivated readers--has enjoined selfrestraint in the

development of personal views and the limitation of critical reflections

in favor of objective presentation. It is only now and then that critical

hints have been given. In the discussion of phenomena of minor importance

it has been impossible to avoid the \_oratio obliqua\_ of exposition; but,

wherever practicable, we have let the philosophers themselves develop their

doctrines and reasons, not so much by literal quotations from their

works, as by free, condensed reproductions of their leading ideas. If the

principiant view of the forces which control the history of philosophy, and

of the progress of modern philosophy, expressed in the Introduction and in

the Retrospect at the end of the book, have not been everywhere verified

in detail from the historical facts, this is due in part to the limits, in

part to the pedagogical aim, of the work. Thus, in particular, more space

has for pedagogical reasons been devoted to the "psychological" explanation

of systems, as being more popular, than in our opinion its intrinsic

importance would entitle it to demand. To satisfy every one in the choice

of subjects and in the extent of the discussion is impossible; but our hope

is that those who would have preferred a guide of this sort to be entirely

different will not prove too numerous. In the classification of movements

and schools, and in the arrangement of the contents of the various systems,

it has not been our aim to deviate at all hazards from previous accounts;

and as little to leave unutilized the benefits accruing to later comers

from the distinguished achievements of earlier workers in the field. In

particular we acknowledge with gratitude the assistance derived from the

renewed study of the works on the subject by Kuno Fischer, J.E. Erdmann,

Zeller, Windelband, Ueberweg-Heinze, Harms, Lange, Vorlander, and Pünjer.

The motive which induced us to take up the present work was the perception

that there was lacking a text-book in the history of modern philosophy,

which, more comprehensive, thorough, and precise than the sketches of

Schwegler and his successors, should stand between the fine but detailed

exposition of Windelband, and the substantial but--because of the division

of the text into paragraphs and notes and the interpolation of pages of

bibliographical references--rather dry outline of Ueberweg. While the

former refrains from all references to the literature of the subject and

the latter includes far too many, at least for purposes of instruction, and

J.B. Meyer's \_Leitfaden\_ (1882) is in general confined to biographical and

bibliographical notices; we have mentioned, in the text or the notes and

with the greatest possible regard for the progress of the exposition, both

the chief works of the philosophers themselves and some of the

treatises concerning them. The principles which have guided us in these

selections -- to include only the more valuable works and those best adapted

for students' reading, and further to refer as far as possible to the most

recent works--will hardly be in danger of criticism. But we shall not

dispute the probability that many a book worthy of mention may have been overlooked.

The explanation of a number of philosophical terms, which has been added as

an appendix at the suggestion of the publishers, deals almost entirely

with foreign expressions and gives the preference to the designations of

fundamental movements. It is arranged, as far as possible, so that it may be used as a subject-index.

JENA, December 23, 1885.

#### PREFACE TO THE SECOND GERMAN EDITION.

The majority of the alterations and additions in this new edition are in

the first chapter and the last two; no departure from the general character

of the exposition has seemed to me necessary. I desire to return my

sincere thanks for the suggestions which have come to me alike from public

critiques and private communications. In some cases contradictory requests

have conflicted--thus, on the one hand, I have been urged to expand, on the

other, to cut down the sections on German idealism, especially those on

Hegel--and here I confess my inability to meet both demands. Among the

reviews, that by B. Erdmann in the first volume of the Archiv für

Geschichte der Philosophie\_, and, among the suggestions made by letter,

those of H. Heussler, have been of especial value. Since

others commonly

see defects more clearly than one's self, it will be very welcome if I can

have my desire continually to make this \_History\_ more useful supported by

farther suggestions from the circle of its readers. In case it continues to

enjoy the favor of teachers and students, these will receive conscientious consideration.

For the sake of those who may complain of too much matter, I may remark that the difficulty can easily be avoided by passing over Chapters I., V. (§§ 1-3), VI., VIII., XII., XV., and XVI.

Professor A.C. Armstrong, Jr., is preparing an English translation. My earnest thanks are due to Mr. Karl Niemann of Charlottenburg for his kind participation in the labor of proof-reading.

R.F.

ERLANGEN, June 11, 1892.

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%CONTENTS.%

INTRODUCTION

CHAPTER I.

THE PERIOD OF TRANSITION: FROM NICOLAS OF CUSA TO DESCARTES

1. Nicolas of Cusa

- 2. The Revival of Ancient Philosophy and the Opposition to it
- 3. The Italian Philosophy of Nature
- 4. Philosophy of the State and of Law
- 5. Skepticism in France
- 6. German Mysticism
- 7. The Foundation of Modern Physics
- 8. Philosophy in England to the Middle of the Seventeenth Century
  - ( a ) Bacon's Predecessors
  - (b) Bacon
  - (\_c\_) Hobbes
  - ( d ) Lord Herbert of Cherbury
- 9. Preliminary Survey

# PART I.

%From Descartes to Kant.%

#### CHAPTER II.

# **DESCARTES**

- 1. The Principles
- 2. Nature
- 3. Man

#### CHAPTER III.

THE DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSFORMATION OF CARTESIANISM IN THE NETHERLANDS AND IN FRANCE

- 1. Occasionalism: Geulincx
- 2. Spinoza
  - \_(a)\_ Substance, Attributes, and Modes
  - \_(b)\_ Anthropology; Cognition and the Passions
  - \_(c)\_ Practical Philosophy
- 3. Pascal, Malebranche, Bayle

#### CHAPTER IV.

#### LOCKE

- \_(a)\_ Theory of Knowledge
- (b) Practical Philosophy

#### CHAPTER V.

# ENGLISH PHILOSOPHY IN THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY

- 1. Natural Philosophy and Psychology
- 2. Deism
- 3. Moral Philosophy
- 4. Theory of Knowledge
- \_(a)\_ Berkeley
- \_(b)\_ Hume
- \_(c)\_ The Scottish School

# CHAPTER VI.

# THE FRENCH ILLUMINATION

- 1. The Entrance of English Doctrines
- 2. Theoretical and Practical Sensationalism
- 3. Skepticism and Materialism
- 4. Rousseau's Conflict with the Illumination

#### CHAPTER VII.

# LEIBNITZ

- 1. Metaphysics: the Monads, Representation, the Preestablished Harmony;
- the Laws of Thought and of the World
- 2. The Organic World
- 3. Man: Cognition and Volition
- 4. Theology and Theodicy

# CHAPTER VIII.

# THE GERMAN ILLUMINATION

- 1. The Contemporaries of Leibnitz
- 2. Christian Wolff
- 3. The Illumination as Scientific and as Popular Philosophy
- 4. The Faith Philosophy

#### PART II.

%From Kant to the Present Time.%

#### CHAPTER IX.

# KANT

- 1. Theory of Knowledge
  - \_(a)\_ The Pure Intuitions (Transcendental Aesthetic)
- \_\_(b)\_ The Concepts and Principles of the Pure Understanding

(Transcendental Analytic)

 $\_(c)\_$  The Reason's Ideas of the Unconditioned (Transcendental

Dialectic)

- 2. Theory of Ethics
- 3. Theory of the Beautiful and of Ends in Nature
  - \_(a)\_ Aesthetic Judgment
  - \_(b)\_ Teleological Judgment
- 4. From Kant to Fichte

# CHAPTER X.

# FICHTE

- 1. The Science of Knowledge
  - \_(a)\_ The Problem
  - \_(b)\_ The Three Principles

- \_(c)\_ The Theoretical Ego
- \_(d)\_ The Practical Ego
- 2. The Science of Ethics and of Right
- 3. Fichte's Second Period: his View of History and his Theory

of Religion

#### CHAPTER XI.

#### SCHELLING

- 1 a . Philosophy of Nature
- 1 b . Transcendental Philosophy
- 2. System of Identity
- 3 a . Doctrine of Freedom
- 3\_b\_. Philosophy of Mythology and Revelation

#### CHAPTER XII.

# SCHELLING'S CO-WORKERS

- 1. The Philosophers of Nature
- 2. The Philosophers of Identity (F. Krause)
- 3. The Philosophers of Religion (Baader and Schleiermacher)

## CHAPTER XIII.

## HEGEL

- 1. Hegel's View of the World and his Method
- 2. The System
  - (a) Logic
  - (\_b\_) The Philosophy of Nature
  - (\_c\_) The Doctrine of Subjective Spirit
  - (d) The Doctrine of Objective Spirit
  - (\_e\_) Absolute Spirit

#### CHAPTER XIV.

THE OPPOSITION TO CONSTRUCTIVE IDEALISM: FRIES, HERBART,

# SCHOPENHAUER

- 1. The Psychologists: Fries and Beneke
- 2. Realism: Herbart
- 3. Pessimism: Schopenhauer

#### CHAPTER XV.

# PHILOSOPHY OUT OF GERMANY

- 1. Italy
- 2. France
- 3. Great Britain and America
- 4. Sweden, Norway, Denmark, and Holland

#### CHAPTER XVI.

#### GERMAN PHILOSOPHY SINCE THE DEATH OF HEGEL

1. From the Division of the Hegelian School to the Materialistic

# Controversy

- 2. New Systems: Trendelenburg, Fechner, Lotze, and Hartmann
- 3. From the Revival of the Kantian Philosophy to the Present Time
- (\_a\_) Neo-Kantianism, Positivism, and Kindred Phenomena
- (\_b\_) Idealistic Reaction against the Scientific Spirit
  - (\_c\_) The Special Philosophical Sciences
- 4. Retrospect

#### INDEX

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#### INTRODUCTION.

In no other department is a thorough knowledge of

history so important as in philosophy. Like historical science in general, philosophy is, on the one hand, in touch with exact inquiry, while, on the other, it has a certain relationship with art. With the former it has in common its methodical procedure and its cognitive aim; with the latter, its intuitive character and the endeavor to compass the whole of reality with a glance. Metaphysical principles are less easily verified from experience than physical hypotheses, but also less easily refuted. Systems of philosophy, therefore, are not so dependent on our progressive knowledge of facts as the theories of natural science, and change less quickly; notwithstanding their mutual conflicts, and in spite of the talk about discarded standpoints, they possess in a measure the permanence of classical works of art, they retain for all time a certain relative validity. The thought of Plato, of Aristotle, and of the heroes of modern philosophy is ever proving anew its fructifying power. Nowhere do we find such instructive errors as in the sphere of philosophy; nowhere is the new so essentially a completion and development of the old, even though it deem itself

and development of the old, even though it deem itself the whole and assume

a hostile attitude toward its predecessors; nowhere is the inquiry so much

more important than the final result; nowhere the categories "true and

false" so inadequate. The spirit of the time and the spirit of the people,

the individuality of the thinker, disposition, will, fancy--all these exert

a far stronger influence on the development of philosophy, both by way of

promotion and by way of hindrance, than in any other department of thought.

If a system gives classical expression to the thought of an epoch, a

nation, or a great personality; if it seeks to attack the world-riddle from

a new direction, or brings us nearer its solution by important original

conceptions, by a subtler or a simpler comprehension of the problem, by a

wider outlook or a deeper insight; it has accomplished more than it could

have done by bringing forward a number of indisputably correct principles.

The variations in philosophy, which, on the assumption of the unity of

truth, are a rock of offense to many minds, may be explained, on the one

hand, by the combination of complex variety and limitation in the motives

which govern philosophical thought, -- for it is the whole man that

philosophizes, not his understanding merely,--and, on the other, by the

inexhaustible extent of the field of philosophy. Back of the logical labor

of proof and inference stand, as inciting, guiding, and hindering agents,

psychical and historical forces, which are themselves in large measure

alogical, though stronger than all logic; while just before stretches

away the immeasurable domain of reality, at once inviting and resisting

conquest. The grave contradictions, so numerous in both the subjective

and the objective fields, make unanimity impossible concerning ultimate

problems; in fact, they render it difficult for the individual thinker to

combine his convictions into a self-consistent system. Each philosopher

sees limited sections of the world only, and these through his own eyes;

every system is one-sided. Yet it is this multiplicity and variety of

systems alone which makes the aim of philosophy

practicable as it endeavors

to give a complete picture of the soul and of the universe. The history of

philosophy is the philosophy of humanity, that great individual, which,

with more extended vision than the instruments through which it works,

is able to entertain opposing principles, and which, reconciling old

contradictions as it discovers new ones, approaches by a necessary and

certain growth the knowledge of the one all-embracing truth, which is

rich and varied beyond our conception. In order to energetic labor in the

further progress of philosophy, it is necessary to imagine that the goddess

of truth is about to lift the veil which has for centuries concealed her.

The historian of philosophy, on the contrary, looks on each new system as

a stone, which, when shaped and fitted into its place, will help to raise

higher the pyramid of knowledge. Hegel's doctrine of the necessity

and motive force of contradictories, of the relative justification of

standpoints, and the systematic development of speculation, has great and

permanent value as a general point of view. It needs only to be guarded

from narrow scholastic application to become a safe canon for the

historical treatment of philosophy.

In speaking above of the worth of the philosophical doctrines of the past

as defying time, and as comparable to the standard character of finished

works of art, the special reference was to those elements in speculation

which proceed less from abstract thinking than from the fancy, the heart,

and the character of the individual, and even more directly from the

disposition of the people; and which to a certain degree may be divorced

from logical reasoning and the scientific treatment of particular

questions. These may be summed up under the phrase, views of the world. The

necessity for constant reconsideration of them is from this standpoint at

once evident. The Greek view of the world is as classic as the plastic art

of Phidias and the epic of Homer; the Christian, as eternally valid as the

architecture of the Middle Ages; the modern, as irrefutable as Goethe's

poetry and the music of Beethoven. The views of the world which proceed

from the spirits of different ages, as products of the general development

of culture, are not so much thoughts as rhythms in thinking, not theories

but modes of intuition saturated with feelings of worth. We may dispute

about them, it is true; we may argue against them or in their defense; but

they can neither be established nor overthrown by cogent proofs. It is not

only optimism and pessimism, determinism and indeterminism, that have their

ultimate roots in the affective side of our nature, but pantheism and

individualism, also idealism and materialism, even
rationalism and

sensationalism. Even though they operate with the instruments of thought,

they remain in the last analysis matters of faith, of feeling, and of

resolution. The aesthetic view of the world held by the Greeks, the

transcendental-religious view of Christianity, the intellectual view of

Leibnitz and Hegel, the panthelistic views of Fichte I and Schopenhauer are

vital forces, not doctrines, postulates, not results of thought. One view

of the world is forced to yield its pre-eminence to

another, which it has

itself helped to produce by its own one-sidedness; only to reconquer its

opponent later, when it has learned from her, when it has been purified,

corrected, and deepened by the struggle. But the elder contestant is no

more confuted by the younger than the drama of Sophocles by the drama of

Shakespeare, than youth by age or spring by autumn.

If it is thus indubitable that the views of the world held in earlier times

deserve to live on in the memory of man, and to live as something better

than mere reminders of the past--the history of philosophy is not a cabinet

of antiquities, but a museum of typical products of the mind--the value

and interest of the historical study of the past in relation to the exact

scientific side of philosophical inquiry is not less evident. In every

science it is useful to trace the origin and growth of problems and

theories, and doubly so in philosophy. With her it is by no means the

universal rule that progress shows itself by the result; the statement of

the question is often more important than the answer. The problem is more

sharply defined in a given direction; or it becomes more comprehensive,

is analyzed and refined; or if now it threatens to break up into subtle

details, some genius appears to simplify it and force our thoughts back

to the fundamental question. This advance in problems, which happily is

everywhere manifested by unmistakable signs, is, in the case of many of the

questions which irresistibly force themselves upon the human heart, the

only certain gain from centuries of endeavor. The labor here is of more

value than the result.

In treating the history of philosophy, two extremes must be avoided,

lawless individualism and abstract logical formalism. The history

of philosophy is neither a disconnected succession of arbitrary

individual opinions and clever guesses, nor a mechanically developed series

of typical standpoints and problems, which imply one another in just the

form and order historically assumed. The former supposition does violence

to the regularity of philosophical development, the latter to its vitality.

In the one case, the connection is conceived too loosely, in the other, too

rigidly and simply. One view underestimates the power of the logical Idea,

the other overestimates it. It is not easy to support the principle that

chance rules the destiny of philosophy, but it is more difficult to avoid

the opposite conviction of the one-sidedness of formalistic construction,

and to define the nature and limits of philosophical necessity. The

development of philosophy is, perhaps, one chief aim of the world-process,

but it is certainly not the only one; it is a part of the universal aim,

and it is not surprising that the instruments of its realization do not

work exclusively in its behalf, that their activity brings about results,

which seem unessential for philosophical ends or obstacles in their way.

Philosophical ideas do not think themselves, but are thought by living

spirits, which are something other and better than mere thought

machines--by spirits who live these thoughts, who fill them with personal

warmth and passionately defend them. There is often

reason, no doubt, for

the complaint that the personality which has undertaken to develop some

great idea is inadequate to the task, that it carries its subjective

defects into the matter in hand, that it does too much or too little, or

the right thing in the wrong way, so that the spirit of philosophy seems

to have erred in the choice and the preparation of its instrument. But the

reverse side of the picture must also be taken into account. The thinking

spirit is more limited, it is true, than were desirable for the perfect

execution of a definite logical task; but, on the other hand, it is far

too rich as well. A soulless play of concepts would certainly not help

the cause, and there is no disadvantage in the failure of the history of

philosophy to proceed so directly and so scholastically, as, for instance,

in the system of Hegel. A graded series of interconnected general forces

mediate between the logical Idea and the individual thinker--the spirit of

the people, of the age, of the thinker's vocation, of his time of life,

which are felt by the individual as part of himself and whose impulses

he unconsciously obeys. In this way the modifying, furthering, hindering

correlation of higher and lower, of the ruler with his commands and the

servant with his more or less willing obedience, is twice repeated, the

situation being complicated further by the fact that the subject affected

by these historical forces himself helps to make history. The most

important factor in philosophical progress is, of course, the state of

inquiry at the time, the achievements of the thinkers of the immediately

preceding age; and in this relation of a philosopher to his predecessors,

again, a distinction must be made between a logical and a psychological

element. The successor often commences his support, his development, or his

refutation at a point quite unwelcome to the constructive historian. At all

events, if we may judge from the experience of the past, too much caution

cannot be exercised in setting up formal laws for the development of

thought. According to the law of contradiction and reconciliation, a

Schopenhauer must have followed directly after Leibnitz, to oppose his

pessimistic ethelism to the optimistic intellectualism of the latter; when,

in turn, a Schleiermacher, to give an harmonic resolution of the antithesis

into a concrete doctrine of feeling, would have made a fine third. But it

turned out otherwise, and we must be content.

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The estimate of the value of the history of philosophy in general, given at

the start, is the more true of the history of modern philosophy, since the

movement introduced by the latter still goes on unfinished. We are still at

work on the problems which were brought forward by Descartes, Locke, and

Leibnitz, and which Kant gathered up into the critical or transcendental

question. The present continues to be governed by the ideal of culture

which Bacon proposed and Fichte exalted to a higher level; we all live

under the unweakened spell of that view of the world which was developed in

hostile opposition to Scholasticism, and through the enduring influence of

those mighty geographical and scientific discoveries and religious reforms

which marked the entrance of the modern period. It is true, indeed, that

the transition brought about by Kant's noëtical and ethical revolution was

of great significance, -- more significant even than the Socratic period,

with which we are fond of comparing it; much that was new was woven on,

much of the old, weakened, broken, destroyed. And yet, if we take into

account the historical after-influence of Cartesianism, we shall find that

the thread was only knotted and twisted by Kantianism, not cut through. The

continued power of the pre-Kantian modes of thought is shown by the fact

that Spinoza has been revived in Fichte and Schelling, Leibnitz in Herbart

and Hegel, the sensationalism of the French Illuminati in Feuerbach; and

that even materialism, which had been struck down by the criticism of the

reason (one would have thought forever), has again raised its head. Even

that most narrow tendency of the early philosophy of the modern period, the

apotheosis of cognition is, -- in spite of the moralistic counter-movement

of Kant and Fichte, -- the controlling motive in the last of the great

idealistic systems, while it also continues to exercise a marvelously

powerful influence on the convictions of our Hegel-weary age, alike within

the sphere of philosophy and (still more) without it. In view of the

intimate relations between contemporary inquiry and the progress of thought

since the beginning of the modern period, acquaintance with the latter,

which it is the aim of this \_History\_ to facilitate, becomes a pressing

duty. To study the history of philosophy since Descartes

is to study the pre-conditions of contemporary philosophy.

We begin with an outline sketch of the general characteristics of modern

philosophy. These may be most conveniently described by comparing them with

the characteristics of ancient and of mediaeval philosophy. The character

of ancient philosophy or Greek philosophy, -- for they are practically the

same, -- is predominantly aesthetic. The Greek holds beauty and truth closely

akin and inseparable; "cosmos" is his common expression for the world and

for ornament. The universe is for him a harmony, an organism, a work of

art, before which he stands in admiration and reverential awe. In quiet

contemplation, as with the eye of a connoisseur, he looks upon the world or

the individual object as a well-ordered whole, more disposed to enjoy the

congruity of its parts than to study out its ultimate elements. He prefers

contemplation to analysis, his thought is plastic, not anatomical. He finds

the nature of the object in its form; and ends give him the key to the

comprehension of events. Discovering human elements everywhere, he is

always ready with judgments of worth--the stars move in circles because

circular motion is the most perfect; the right is better than left, upper

finer than lower, that which precedes more beautiful than that which

follows. Thinkers in whom this aesthetic reverence is weaker than the

analytic impulse--especially Democritus--seem half modern rather than

Greek. By the side of the Greek philosophy, in its sacred festal garb,

stands the modern in secular workday dress, in the laborer's blouse, with

the merciless chisel of analysis in its hand. This does not seek beauty,

but only the naked truth, no matter what it be. It holds it impossible to

satisfy at once the understanding and taste; nay, nakedness, ugliness,

and offensiveness seem to it to testify for, rather than against, the

genuineness of truth. In its anxiety not to read human elements into

nature, it goes so far as completely to read spirit out of nature. The

world is not a living whole, but a machine; not a work of art which is to

be viewed in its totality and enjoyed with reverence, but a clock-movement

to be taken apart in order to be understood. Nowhere are there ends in the

world, but everywhere mechanical causes. The character of modern thought

would appear to a Greek returned to earth very sober, unsplendid, undevout,

and intrusive. And, in fact, modern philosophy has a considerable amount

of prose about it, is not easily impressed, accepts no limitations from

feeling, and holds nothing too sacred to be attacked with the weapon of

analytic thought. And yet it combines penetration with intrusiveness;

acuteness, coolness, and logical courage with its soberness. Never before

has the demand for unprejudiced thought and certain knowledge been made

with equal earnestness. This interest in knowledge for its own sake

developed so suddenly and with such strength that, in presumptuous

gladness, men believed that no previous age had rightly understood what

truth and love for truth are. The natural consequence was a general

overestimation of cognition at the expense of all other mental activities.

Even among the Greek thinkers, thought was held by the

majority to be the

noblest and most divine function. But their

intellectualism was checked

by the aesthetic and eudaemonistic element, and preserved from the

one-sidedness which it manifests in the modern period, because of the

lack of an effective counterpoise. However eloquently Bacon commends the

advantages to be derived from the conquest of nature, he still understands

inquiry for inquiry's sake, and honors it as supreme; even the ethelistic

philosophers, Fichte and Schopenhauer, pay their tribute to the prejudice

in favor of intellectualism. The fact that the modern period can show

no one philosophic writer of the literary rank of Plato, even though it

includes such masters of style as Fichte, Schelling, Schopenhauer, and

Lotze, not to speak of lesser names, is an external proof of how noticeably

the aesthetic impulse has given way to one purely intellectual.

When we turn to the character of mediaeval thinking; we find, instead of

the aesthetic views of antiquity and the purely scientific tendency of the

modern era, a distinctively religious spirit. Faith prescribes the objects

and the limitations of knowledge; everything is referred to the hereafter,

thought becomes prayer. Men speculate concerning the attributes of God, on

the number and rank of the angels, on the immortality of man--all purely

transcendental subjects. Side by side with these, it is true, the world

receives loving attention, but always as the lower story merely,[1] above

which, with its own laws, rises the true fatherland, the kingdom of grace.

The most subtle acuteness is employed in the service of

dogma, with the

task of fathoming the how and why of things whose existence is certified

elsewhere. The result is a formalism in thought side by side with profound

and fervent mysticism. Doubt and trust are strangely intermingled, and a

feeling of expectation stirs all hearts. On the one side stands sinful,

erring man, who, try as hard as he may, only half unravels the mysteries of

revealed truth; on the other, the God of grace, who, after our death, will

reveal himself to us as clearly as Adam knew him before the fall. God

alone, however, can comprehend himself--for the finite spirit, even

truth unveiled is mystery, and ecstasy, unresisting devotion to the

incomprehensible, the culmination of knowledge. In mediaeval philosophy

the subject looks longingly upward to the infinite object of his thought,

expecting that the latter will bend down toward him or lift him upward

toward itself; in Greek philosophy the spirit confronts its object, the

world, on a footing of equality; in modern philosophy the speculative

subject feels himself higher than the object, superior to nature. In

the conception of the Middle Ages, truth and mystery are identical; to

antiquity they appear reconcilable; modern thought holds them as mutually

exclusively as light and darkness. The unknown is the enemy of knowledge,

which must be chased out of its last hiding-place. It is, therefore, easy

to understand that the modern period stands in far sharper antithesis to

the mediaeval era than to the ancient, for the latter has furnished it many

principles which can be used as weapons against the former. Grandparents

and grandchildren make good friends.

[Footnote 1: On the separation and union of the three worlds, \_natura,

gratia, gloria\_, in Thomas Aquinas, cf. Rudolph Eucken,
\_Die Philosophie

des Thomas von Aquino und die Kultur der Neuzeit\_, Halle. 1886.]

When a new movement is in preparation, but there is a lack of creative

force to give it form, a period of tumultuous disaffection with existing

principles ensues. What is wanted is not clearly perceived, but there is a

lively sense of that which is not wanted.

Dissatisfaction prepares a place

for that which is to come by undermining the existent and making it

ripe for its fall. The old, the outgrown, the doctrine which had become

inadequate, was in this case Scholasticism; modern philosophy shows

throughout--and most clearly at the start--an anti-Scholastic character. If

up to this time Church dogma had ruled unchallenged in spiritual affairs,

and the Aristotelian philosophy in things temporal, war is now declared

against authority of every sort and freedom of thought is inscribed on

the banner.[1] "Modern philosophy is Protestantism in the sphere of the

thinking spirit" (Erdmann). Not that which has been considered true for

centuries, not that which another says, though he be Aristotle or Thomas

Aquinas, not that which flatters the desires of the heart, is true, but

that only which is demonstrated to my own understanding with convincing

force. Philosophy is no longer willing to be the handmaid of theology,

but must set up a house of her own. The watchword now becomes freedom and

independent thought, deliverance from every form of constraint, alike from

the bondage of ecclesiastical decrees and the inner servitude of prejudice

and cherished inclinations. But the adoption of a purpose leads to the

consideration of the means for attaining it. Thus the thirst for knowledge

raises questions concerning the method, the instruments, and the limits of

knowledge; the interest in noëtics and methodology vigorously develops,

remains a constant factor in modern inquiry, and culminates in Kant, not again to die away.

[Footnote 1: The doctrine of twofold truth, under whose protecting cloak

the new liberal movements had hitherto taken refuge, was now disdainfully

repudiated. Cf. Freudenthal, \_Zur Beurtheilung der Scholastik , in vol.

iii. of the \_Archiv für Geschichte der Philosophie\_, 1890. Also, H. Reuter,

\_Geschichte der religiösen Aufklärung im Mittelalter\_ 1875-77; and Dilthey,

\_Einleitung in die Geisteswissenschaften\_, 1883.]

This negative aspect of modern tendencies needs, however, a positive

supplement. The mediaeval mode of thought is discarded and the new one is

not yet found. What can more fittingly furnish a support, a preliminary

substitute, than antiquity? Thus philosophy, also, joins in that great

stream of culture, the Renaissance and humanism, which, starting from

Italy, poured forth over the whole civilized world. Plato and Neoplatonism,

Epicurus and the Stoa are opposed to Scholasticism, the real Aristotle to

the transformed Aristotle of the Church and the distorted Aristotle of the

schools. Back to the sources, is the cry. With the

revival of the ancient

languages and ancient books, the spirit of antiquity is also revived. The

dust of the schools and the tyranny of the Church are thrown off, and the

classical ideal of a free and noble humanity gains enthusiastic adherents.

The man is not to be forgotten in the Christian, nor art and science, the

rights and the riches of individuality in the interest of piety; work for

the future must not blind us to the demands of the present nor lead us to

neglect the comprehensive cultivation of the natural capacities of the

spirit. The world and man are no longer viewed through Christian eyes, the

one as a realm of darkness and the other as a vessel of weakness and wrath,

but nature and life gleam before the new generation in joyous, hopeful

light. Humanism and optimism have always been allied.

This change in the spirit of thought is accompanied by a corresponding

change in the object of thought: theology must yield its supremacy to the

knowledge of nature. Weary of Christological and soteriological questions,

weary of disputes concerning the angels, the thinking spirit longs to

make himself at home in the world it has learned to love, demands real

knowledge,--knowledge which is of practical utility,-and no longer seeks

God outside the world, but in it and above it. Nature becomes the home, the

body of God. Transcendence gives place to immanence, not only in theology,

but elsewhere. Modern philosophy is naturalistic in spirit, not only

because it takes nature for its favorite object, but also because it

carries into other branches of knowledge the mathematical method so

successful in natural science, because it considers everything \_sub ratione

naturae\_ and insists on the "natural" explanation of all phenomena, even

those of ethics and politics.

In a word, the tendency of modern philosophy is anti-Scholastic,

humanistic, and naturalistic. This summary must suffice for preliminary

orientation, while the detailed division,

particularization, modification,

and limitation of these general points must be left for later treatment.

Two further facts, however, may receive preliminary notice. The

indifference and hostility to the Church which have been cited among the

prominent characteristics of modern philosophy, do not necessarily mean

enmity to the Christian religion, much less to religion in general. In

part, it is merely a change in the object of religious feeling, which

blazes up especially strong and enthusiastic in the philosophy of the

sixteenth century, as it transfers its worship from a transcendent deity to

a universe indued with a soul; in part, the opposition is directed against

the mediaeval, ecclesiastical form of Christianity, with its monastic

abandonment of the world. It was often nothing but a very deep and strong

religious feeling that led thinkers into the conflict with the hierarchy.

Since the elements of permanent worth in the tendencies, doctrines, and

institutions of the Middle Ages are thus culled out from that which is

corrupt and effete, and preserved by incorporation into the new view of the

world and the new science, and as fruitful elements from antiquity enter

with them, the progress of philosophy shows a continuous enrichment in

its ideas, intuitions, and spirit. The old is not simply discarded and

destroyed, but purified, transformed, and assimilated. The same fact

forces itself into notice if we consider the relations of nationality and

philosophy in the three great eras. The Greek philosophy was entirely

national in its origin and its public, it was rooted in the character of

the people and addressed itself to fellow-countrymen; not until toward its

decline, and not until influenced by Christianity, were its cosmopolitan

inclinations aroused. The Middle Ages were indifferent to national

distinctions, as to everything earthly, and naught was of value in

comparison with man's transcendent destiny. Mediaeval philosophy is in its

aims un-national, cosmopolitan, catholic; it uses the Latin of the schools,

it seeks adherents in every land, it finds everywhere productive

spirits whose labors in its service remain unaffected by their national

peculiarities. The modern period returns to the nationalism of antiquity,

but does not relinquish the advantage gained by the extension of mediaeval

thought to the whole civilized world. The roots of modern philosophy are

sunk deep in the fruitful soil of nationality, while the top of the

tree spreads itself far beyond national limitations. It is national and

cosmopolitan together; it is international as the common property of the

various peoples, which exchange their philosophical gifts through an active

commerce of ideas. Latin is often retained for use abroad, as the

universal language of savants, but many a work is first

published in the

mother-tongue--and thought in it. Thus it becomes possible for the ideas

of the wise to gain an entrance into the consciousness of the people, from

whose spirit they have really sprung, and to become a power beyond the

circle of the learned public. Philosophy as illumination, as a factor in

general culture, is an exclusively modern phenomenon. In this speculative

intercourse of nations, however, the French, the English, and the Germans

are most involved, both as producers and consumers. France gives the

initiative (in Descartes), then England assumes the leadership (in Locke),

with Leibnitz and Kant the hegemony passes over to Germany. Besides these

powers, Italy takes an eager part in the production of philosophical

ideas in the period of ferment before Descartes. Each of these nations

contributes elements to the total result which it alone is in a position

to furnish, and each is rewarded by gifts in return which it would be

incapable of producing out of its own store. This international exchange of

ideas, in which each gives and each receives, and the fact that the chief

modern thinkers, especially in the earlier half of the era, prior to Kant,

are in great part not philosophers by profession but soldiers, statesmen,

physicians, as well as natural scientists, historians, and priests, give

modern philosophy an unprofessional, worldly appearance, in striking

contrast to the clerical character of mediaeval, and the prophetic

character of ancient thinking.

Germany, England, and France claim the honor of having produced the first

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modern philosopher, presenting Nicolas of Cusa, Bacon
of Verulam, and
René Descartes as their candidates, while Hobbes, Bruno,
and Montaigne have
received only scattered votes. The claim of England is
the weakest of all.
for, without intending to diminish Bacon's importance,
it may be said that
the programme which he develops--and in essence his
philosophy is nothing
more--was, in its leading principles, not first
announced by him, and
not carried out with sufficient consistency. The dispute
between the two
remaining contestants may be easily and equitably
settled by making the
simple distinction between forerunner and beginner,
between path-breaker
and founder. The entrance of a new historical era is not
accompanied by an
audible click, like the beginning of a new piece on a
music-box, but is
gradually effected. A considerable period may intervene
between the point
when the new movement flashes up, not understood and
half unconscious of
itself, and the time when it appears on the stage in
full strength and
maturity, recognizing itself as new and so acknowledged
by others: the
period of ferment between the Middle Ages and modern
times lasted almost
two centuries. It is in the end little more than
logomachy to discuss
whether this time of anticipation and desire, of
endeavor and partial
success, in which the new struggles with the old without
conquering it, and
the opposite tendencies in the conflicting views of the
world interplay in
a way at once obscure and wayward, is to be classed as
the epiloque of the
old era or the prologue of the new. The simple solution
to take it as a
transition period , no longer mediaeval but not yet
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modern, has met with fairly general acceptance. Nicolas of Cusa (1401-64) was the first to announce \_fundamental principles\_ of modern philosophy-he is the leader in this intermediate preparatory period. Descartes (1596-1650) brought forward the first \_system\_--he is the father of modern philosophy.

A brief survey of the literature may be added in conclusion:

Heinrich Ritter's Geschichte der neueren Philosophie (vols. ix.-xii. of his Geschichte der Philosophie ), 1850-53, to Wolff and Rousseau, has been superseded by more recent works, J.E. Erdmann's able Versuch einer wissenschaftlichen Darstellung der neueren Philosophie (6 vols., 1834-53) gives in appendices literal excerpts from non-German writers; the same author's Grundriss der Geschichte der Philosophie (2 vols., 1869; 3d ed., 1878) contains at the end the first exposition of German Philosophy since the Death of Hegel [English translation in 3 vols., edited by W. S. Hough, 1890.--TR.]. Ueberweg's Grundriss (7th ed. by M. Heinze, 1888) is indispensable for reference on account of the completeness of its bibliographical notes, which, however, are confusing to the beginner [English translation by G.S. Morris, with additions by the translator, Noah Porter, and Vincenzo Botta, New York, 1872-74.--TR.]. The most detailed and brilliant exposition has been given by Kuno Fischer (1854 seq.; 3d ed., 1878 seq.; the same author's Baco und seine Nachfolger\_, 2d ed., 1875, -- English translation, 1857, by Oxenford, --

supplements the first two

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volumes of the Geschichte der neueren Philosophie ).
This work, which is
important also as a literary achievement, is better
fitted than any other
to make the reader at home in the ideal world of the
great philosophers,
which it reconstructs from its central point, and to
prepare him for the
study (which, of course, even the best exposition cannot
replace) of the
works of the thinkers themselves. Its excessive
simplification of problems
is not of great moment in the first introduction to a
system [English
translation of vol. iii. book 2 (1st ed.), A Commentary
on Kant's Critick
of the Pure Reason , by J.P. Mahaffy, London, 1866; vol.
i. part 1 and part
2, book 1, Descartes and his School , by J, P. Gordy,
New York, 1887;
of vol. v. chaps, i.-v., A Critique of Kant , by W.S.
Hough, London,
1888.--TR.]. Wilhelm Windelband (Geschichte der neueren
Philosophie,
2 vols., 1878 and 1880, to Hegel and Herbart inclusive)
accentuates the
connection of philosophy with general culture and the
particular sciences,
and emphasizes philosophical method. This work is
pleasant reading, yet, in
the interest of clearness, we could wish that the author
had given more
of positive information concerning the content of the
doctrines treated,
instead of merely advancing reflections on them. A
projected third volume
is to trace the development of philosophy down to the
present time.
Windelband's compendium, Geschichte der Philosophie,
1890-91, is
distinguished from other expositions by the fact that,
for the most part,
it confines itself to a history of problems . Baumann's
 Geschichte der
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Philosophie, 1890, aims to give a detailed account of

who have advanced views individual either in their content or in their proof. Eduard Zeller has given his Geschichte der deutschen Philosophie seit Leibniz (1873; 2d ed., 1875) the benefit of the same thorough and comprehensive knowledge and mature judgment which have made his Philosophie der Griechen a classic. [Bowen's Modern Philosophy, New York, 1857 (6th ed., 1891); Royce's Spirit of Modern Philosophy, 1892.--TR.] Eugen Dühring's hypercritical Kritische Geschichte der Philosophie (1869; 3d ed., 1878) can hardly be recommended to students. Lewes (German translation, 1876) assumes a positivistic standpoint; Thilo (1874), a position exclusively Herbartian; A. Stoeckl (3d ed., 1889) writes from the standpoint of confessional Catholicism; Vincenz Knauer (2d ed., 1882) is a Güntherian. With the philosophico-historical work of Chr. W. Sigwart (1854), and one of the same date by Oischinger, we are not intimately acquainted. Expositions of philosophy since Kant have been given by the Hegelian, C.L. Michelet (a larger one in 2 vols., 1837-38, and a smaller one, 1843); by Chalybaeus (1837; 5th ed., 1860, formerly very popular and worthy of it, English, 1854); by Fr. K. Biedermann (1842-43); by Carl Fortlage (1852, Kantio-Fichtean standpoint); and by Friedrich Harms (1876). The last of these writers unfortunately did not succeed in giving a sufficiently clear and precise, not to say tasteful, form to the valuable

those thinkers only

ideas and original

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conceptions in which his work is rich. The very popular
exposition by an
anonymous author of Hegelian tendencies, Deutschlands
Denker seit Kant
(Dessau, 1851), hardly deserves mention.
Further, we may mention some of the works which treat
the historical
development of particular subjects: On the history of
the philosophy of
religion , the first volume of Otto Pfleiderer's
Religionsphilosophie auf
geschichtlicher Grundlage (2d ed., 1883; -- English
translation by Alexander
Stewart and Allan Menzies, 1886-88.--TR.), and the very
trustworthy
exposition by Bernhard Pünjer (2 vols., 1880, 1883;
English translation by
W. Hastie, vol. i., 1887. -- TR.). On the history of
practical philosophy,
besides the first volume of I.H. Fichte's Ethik
(1850), Franz Vorländer's
Geschichte der philosophischen Moral, Rechts- und
Staatslehre der
Engländer und Franzosen (1855); Fr. Jodl, Geschichte
der Ethik in der
neueren Philosophie (2 vols., 1882, 1889), and
Bluntschli, Geschichte der
neueren Staatswissenschaft (3d ed., 1881); [Sidgwick's
Outlines of
the History of Ethics , 3d ed., 1892, and Martineau's
 Types of Ethical
Theory , 3d ed., 1891.--TR.]. On the history of the
philosophy of
history: Rocholl, Die Philosophie der Geschichte,
1878; Richard Fester,
Rousseau und die deutsche Geschichtsphilosophie , 1890
[Flint, The
Philosophy of History in Europe_, vol. i., 1874,
complete in 3 vols., 1893
seq .]. On the history of aesthetics , R. Zimmermann,
1858; H. Lotze,
1868; Max Schasler, 1871; Ed. von Hartmann (since Kant),
1886; Heinrich
von Stein, Die Entstehung der neueren Aesthetik
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(1886); [Bosanquet, _A
History of Aesthetic_, 1892.--TR.]. Further, Fr. Alb.
Lange, Geschichte
des Materialismus , 1866; 4th ed., 1882; [English
translation by E.C.
Thomas, 3 vols., 1878-81.--TR.]; Jul. Baumann, Die
Lehren von Raum, Zeit
und Mathematik in der neueren Philosophie , 1868-69;
Edm. König, Die
Entwickelung des Causalproblems von Cartesius bis Kant,
1888, seit
Kant_, 1890; Kurd Lasswitz, _Geschichte der Atomistik
vom Mittelalter bis
Newton , 2 vols., 1890; Ed. Grimm, Zur Geschichte des
Erkenntnissproblems,
von Bacon zu Hume , 1890. The following works are to be
recommended on the
period of transition: Moritz Carrière, Die
philosophische Weltanschauung
der Reformationszeit , 1847; 2d ed., 1887; and Jacob
Burckhardt, Kultur
der Renaissance in Italien , 4th ed., 1886. Reference
may also be made to
A. Trendelenburg, Historische Beiträge zur
Philosophie_, 3 vols., 1846-67;
Rudolph Eucken, _Geschichte und Kritik der Grundbegriffe
der Gegenwart,
1878; [English translation by M. Stuart Phelps, 1880.--
TR.]; the same,
Geschichte der philosophischen Terminologie , 1879; the
same, Beiträge
zur Geschichte der neueren Philosophie , 1886 (including
a valuable
paper on parties and party names in philosophy); the
same, Die
Lebensanschauungen der grossen Denker, 1890; Ludwig
Noack,
Philosophiegeschichtliches Lexicon , 1879; Ed. Zeller,
Vorträge und
Abhandlungen , three series, 1865-84; Chr. von Sigwart,
Kleine Schriften ,
2 vols., 1881; 2d ed., 1889. R. Seydel's Religion und
Philosophie_, 1887,
contains papers on Luther, Schleiermacher, Schelling,
Weisse, Fechner,
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Lotze, Hartmann, Darwinism, etc., which are well worth reading.

Among the smaller compends Schwegler's (1848; recent editions revised

and supplemented by R. Koeber) remains still the least bad [English

translations by Seelye and Smith, revised edition with additions, New York,

1880; and J.H. Stirling, with annotations, 7th ed., 1879.--TR.]. The meager

sketches by Deter, Koeber, Kirchner, Kuhn, Rabus, Vogel, and others are

useful for review at least. Fritz Schultze's \_Stammbaum der Philosophie\_,

1890, gives skillfully constructed tabular outlines, but, unfortunately, in a badly chosen form.

## CHAPTER I.

THE PERIOD OF TRANSITION: FROM NICOLAS OF CUSA TO DESCARTES.

The essays at philosophy which made their appearance between the middle of

the fifteenth century and the middle of the seventeenth, exhibit mediaeval

and modern characteristics in such remarkable intermixture that they can

be assigned exclusively to neither of these two periods. There are eager

longings, lofty demands, magnificent plans, and promising outlooks in

abundance, but a lack of power to endure, a lack of calmness and maturity;

while the shackles against which the leading minds revolt still bind too

firmly both the leaders and those to whom they speak. Only here and there

are the fetters loosened and thrown off; if the hands are successfully

freed, the clanking chains still hamper the feet. It is a time just suited

for original thinkers, a remarkable number of whom in fact make their

appearance, side by side or in close succession. Further, however little

these are able to satisfy the demand for permanent results, they ever

arouse our interest anew by the boldness and depth of their brilliant

ideas, which alternate with quaint fancies or are pervaded by them; by the

youthful courage with which they attacked great questions; and not least

by the hard fate which rewarded their efforts with misinterpretation,

persecution, and death at the stake. We must quickly pass over the broad

threshold between modern philosophy and Scholastic philosophy, which is

bounded by the year 1450, in which Nicolas of Cusa wrote his chief

work, the \_Idiota\_, and 1644, when Descartes began the new era with

his \_Principia Philosophiae\_; and can touch, in passing, only the most

important factors. We shall begin our account of this transition period

with Nicolas, and end it with the Englishmen, Bacon, Hobbes, and Lord

Herbert of Cherbury. Between these we shall arrange the various figures

of the Philosophical Renaissance (in the broad sense) in six groups:

the Restorers of the Ancient Systems and their Opponents; the Italian

Philosophers of Nature; the Political and Legal Philosophers; the Skeptics;

the Mystics; the Founders of the Exact Investigation of Nature. In Italy

the new spiritual birth shows an aesthetic, scientific, and humanistic

tendency; in Germany it is pre-eminently religious emancipation -- in the Reformation.

## %1. Nicolas of Cusa.%

Nicolas[1] was born in 1401, at Cues (Cusa) on the Moselle near Treves.

He early ran away from his stern father, a boatman and vine-dresser named

Chrypps (or Krebs), and was brought up by the Brothers of the Common Life

at Deventer. In Padua he studied law, mathematics, and philosophy, but the

loss of his first case at Mayence so disgusted him with his profession that

he turned to theology, and became a distinguished preacher. He took part

in the Council of Basle, was sent by Pope Eugen IV. as an ambassador to

Constantinople and to the Reichstag at Frankfort; was made Cardinal in

1448, and Bishop of Brixen in 1450. His feudal lord, the Count of Tyrol,

Archduke Sigismund, refused him recognition on account of certain quarrels

in which they had become engaged, and for a time held him prisoner.

Previous to this he had undertaken journeys to Germany and the Netherlands

on missionary business. During a second sojourn in Italy death overtook

him, in the year 1464, at Todi in Umbria. The first volume of the Paris

edition of his collected works (1514) contains the most important of his

philosophical writings; the second, among others, mathematical essays and

ten books of selections from his sermons; the third, the extended work, \_De

Concordantia Catholica\_, which he had completed at Basle. In 1440 (having

already written on the Reform of the Calendar) he began his imposing series

of philosophical writings with the \_De Docta Ignorantia , to which the

\_De Conjecturis\_ was added in the following year. These

were succeeded by

smaller treatises entitled \_De Quaerendo Deum, De Dato Patris Luminum, De

Filiatione Dei, De Genesi\_, and a defense of the \_De Docta Ignorantia . His

most important work is the third of the four dialogues of the Idiota ("On

the Mind"), 1450. He clothes in continually changing forms the one supreme

truth on which all depends, and which cannot be expressed in intelligible

language but only comprehended by living intuition. In many different ways

he endeavors to lead the reader on to a vision of the inexpressible, or

to draw him up to it, and to develop fruitfully the principle of the

coincidence of opposites, which had dawned upon him on his return journey

from Constantinople (\_De Visione Dei, Dialogus de Possest, De Beryllo,

De Ludo Globi, De Venatione Sapientiae, De Apice Theoriae, Compendium\_).

Sometimes he uses dialectical reasoning; sometimes he soars in mystical

exaltation; sometimes he writes with a simplicity level to the common mind,

and in connection with that which lies at hand; sometimes, with the most

comprehensive brevity. Besides these his philosophico-religious works

are of great value, \_De Pace Fidei, De Cribratione Alchorani . Liberal

Catholics reverence him as one of the deepest thinkers of the Church; but

the fame of Giordano Bruno, a more brilliant but much less original figure,

has hitherto stood in the way of the general recognition of his great

importance for modern philosophy.

[Footnote 1: R. Zimmermann, \_Nikolaus Cusanus als Vorläufer Leibnizens\_, in

vol. viii. of the \_Sitzungsberichte der philosophischhistorischen Klasse

der Akademie der Wissenschaften, Vienna, 1852, p. 306 seq. R. Falckenberg, Grundzüge der Philosophie des Nikolaus Cusanus mit besonderer Berücksichtigung der Lehre vom Erkennen , Breslau, 1880. R. Eucken, Beiträge zur Geschichte der neueren Philosophie, Heidelberg, 1886, p. 6 seq.; Joh. Uebinger, Die Gotteslehre des Nikolaus Cusanus , Münster, 1888. Scharpff, Des Nikolaus von Cusa wichtigste Schriften in deutscher Uebersetzung, Freiburg i. Br ., 1862.] Human knowledge and the relation of God to the world are the two poles of the Cusan's system. He distinguishes four stages of knowledge. Lowest of all stands sense (together with imagination), which yields only confused images; next above, the understanding ( ratio ), whose functions comprise analysis, the positing of time and space, numerical operations, and denomination, and which keeps the opposites distinct under the law of contradiction; third, the speculative reason ( intellectus ), which finds the opposites reconcilable; and highest of all the mystical, supra-rational intuition ( visio sine comprehensione, intuitio, unio, filiatio ), for which the opposites coincide in the infinite unity. The intuitive culmination of knowledge, in which the soul is united with God, -- since here even the antithesis of subject and object disappears, -- is but seldom attained; and it is difficult to keep out the disturbing symbols and images of sense, which mingle themselves in the intuition. But it is just this insight into the incomprehensibility of the infinite which gives us a true

knowledge of God; this is the meaning of the "learned

ignorance," the

\_docta ignorantia\_. The distinctions between these several stages of

cognition are not, however, to be understood in any rigid sense, for

each higher function comprehends the lower, and is active therein. The

understanding can discriminate only when it is furnished by sensation with

images of that which is to be discriminated, the reason can combine only

when the understanding has supplied the results of analysis as material for

combination; while, on the other hand, it is the understanding which is

present in sense as consciousness, and the reason whose unity guides

the understanding in its work of separation. Thus the several modes of

cognition do not stand for independent fundamental faculties, but for

connected modifications of one fundamental power which work together and

mutually imply one another. The position that an intellectual function of

attention and discrimination is active in sensuous perception, is a view

entirely foreign to mediaeval modes of thought; for the Scholastics were

accustomed to make sharp divisions between the cognitive faculties, on the

principle that particulars are felt through sense and universals thought

through the understanding. The idea on which Nicolas bases his argument for

immortality has also an entirely modern sound: viz., that space and time

are products of the understanding, and, therefore, can have no power over

the spirit which produces them; for the author is higher and mightier than the product.

The confession that all our knowledge is conjecture does not simply mean

that absolute and exact truth remains concealed from us; but is intended at

the same time to encourage us to draw as near as possible to the eternal

verity by ever truer conjectures. There are degrees of truth, and our

surmises are neither absolutely true nor entirely false. Conjecture becomes

error only when, forgetting the inadequacy of human knowledge, we rest

content with it as a final solution; the Socratic maxim, "I know that I

am ignorant," should not lead to despairing resignation but to courageous

further inquiry. The duty of speculation is to penetrate deeper and deeper

into the secrets of the divine, even though the ultimate revelation will

not be given us until the hereafter. The fittest instrument of speculation

is furnished by mathematics, in its conception of the infinite and the

wonders of numerical relations: as on the infinite sphere center and

circumference coincide, so God's essence is exalted above all opposites;

and as the other numbers are unfolded from the unit, so the finite proceeds

by explication from the infinite. A controlling significance in the serial

construction of the world is ascribed to the ten, as the sum of the first

four numbers--as reason, understanding, imagination, and sensibility are

related in human cognition, so God, spirit, soul, and body, or infinity,

thought, life, and being are related in the objective sphere; so, further,

the absolute necessity of God, the concrete necessity of the universe,

the actuality of individuals, and the possibility of matter. Beside the

quaternary the tern also exercises its power--the world divides into the

stages of eternity, imperishability, and the temporal

world of sense, or truth, probability, and confusion. The divine trinity is reflected everywhere: in the world as creator, created, and love; in the mind as creative force, concept, and will. The triunity of God is very variously explained -- as the subject, object, and act of cognition; as creative spirit, wisdom, and goodness; as being, power, and deed; and, preferably, as unity, equality, and the combination of the two. God is related to the world as unity, identity, complicatio , to otherness, diversity, explicatio, as necessity to contingency, as completed actuality to mere possibility; yet, in such a way that the otherness participates in the unity, and receives its reality from this, and the unity does not have the otherness confronting it, outside it. God is triune only as the Creator of the world, and in relation to it; in himself he is absolute unity and infinity, to which nothing disparate stands opposed, which is just as much all things as not all things, and which, as the Areopagite had taught of old, is better comprehended by negations than by affirmations. To deny that he is light, truth, spirit, is more true than to affirm it, for he is infinitely which can be expressed in words; he is the Unutterable,

greater than anything

the Unknowable,

the supremely one and the supremely absolute. In the world, each thing has

things greater and smaller by its side, but God is the absolutely greatest

and smallest; in accordance with the principle of the coincidentia

oppositorum , the absolute maximum and the absolute \_minimum\_ coincide.

That which in the world exists as concretely determinate and particular,

is in God in a simple and universal way; and that which here is present

as incompleted striving, and as possibility realizing itself by gradual

development, is in God completed activity. He is the realization of all

possibility, the Can-be or Can-is (\_possest\_); and since
this absolute

actuality is the presupposition and cause of all finite ability and action,

it may be unconditionally designated ability (\_posse
ipsum ), in antithesis

to all determinate manifestations of force; namely, to all ability to be,

live, feel, think, and will.

However much these definitions, conceived in harmony with the dualistic

view of Christianity, accentuate the antithesis between God and the world,

this is elsewhere much softened, nay directly denied, in favor of a

pantheistic view which points forward to the modern period. Side by side

with the assertion that there is no proportion whatever between the

infinite and the finite, the following naïvely presents itself, in open

contradiction to the former: God excels the reason just as much as

the latter is superior to the understanding, and the understanding to

sensibility, or he is related to thought as thought to life, and life to

being. Nay, Nicolas makes even bolder statements than these, when he calls

the universe a sensuous and mutable God, man a human God or a humanly

contracted infinity, the creation a created God or a limited infinity; thus

hinting that God and the world are at bottom essentially alike, differing

only in the form of their existence, that it is one and

the same being

and action which manifests itself absolutely in God, relatively and in a

limited way in the system of creation. It was chiefly three modern ideas

which led the Cusan on from dualism to pantheism--the boundlessness of the

universe, the connection of all being, and the all-comprehensive richness

of individuality. Endlessness belongs to the universe as well as to God,

only its endlessness is not an absolute one, beyond space and time, but

weakened and concrete, namely unlimited extension in space and unending

duration in time. Similarly, the universe is unity, yet not a unity

absolutely above multiplicity and diversity, but one which is divided into

many members and obscured thereby. Even the individual is infinite in a

certain sense; for, in its own way, it bears in itself all that is, it

mirrors the whole world from its limited point of view, is an abridged,

compressed representation of the universe. As the members of the body, the

eye, the arm, the foot, interact in the closest possible way, and no one

of them can dispense with the rest, so each thing is connected with each,

different from it and yet in harmony with it, so each contains all the

others and is contained by them. All is in all, for all is in the universe

and in God, as the universe and God in all. In a still higher degree man is

a microcosm (\_parvus mundus\_), a mirror of the All, since he not merely,

like other beings, actually has in himself all that exists, but also has

a knowledge of this richness, is capable of developing it into conscious

images of things. And it is just this which constitutes the perfection of

the whole and of the parts, that the higher is in the lower, the cause in

the effect, the genus in the individual, the soul in the body, reason

in the senses, and conversely. To perfect, is simply to make active a

potential possession, to unfold capacities and to elevate the unconscious

into consciousness. Here we have the germ of the philosophy of Bruno and of Leibnitz.

As we have noticed a struggle between two opposite tendencies, one

dualistic and Christian, one pantheistic and modern, in the theology of

Nicolas, so at many other points a conflict between the mediaeval and the

modern view of the world, of which our philosopher is himself unconscious,

becomes evident to the student. It is impossible to follow out the details

of this interesting opposition, so we shall only attempt to distinguish in

a rough way the beginnings of the new from the remnants of the old. Modern

is his interest in the ancient philosophers, of whom Pythagoras, Plato, and

the Neoplatonists especially attract him; modern, again, his interest in

natural science[1] (he teaches not only the boundlessness of the world, but

also the motion of the earth); his high estimation of mathematics, although

he often utilizes this merely in a fanciful symbolism of numbers; his

optimism (the world an image of the divine, everything perfect of its kind,

the bad simply a halt on the way to the good); his intellectualism (knowing

the primal function and chief mission of the spirit; faith an undeveloped

knowledge; volition and emotion, as is self-evident, incidental results of

thought; knowledge a leading back of the creature to God

as its source,

hence the counterpart of creation); modern, finally, the form and

application given to the Stoic-Neoplatonic concept of individuality, and

the idealistic view which resolves the objects of thought into products

thereof.[2] This last position, indeed, is limited by the lingering

influence of nominalism, which holds the concepts of the mind to be merely

abstract copies, and not archetypes of things. Moreover, explicatio,

evolutio\_, unfolding, as yet does not always have the meaning of

development to-day, of progressive advance. It denotes, quite neutrally,

the production of a multiplicity from a unity, in which the former has lain

confined, no matter whether this multiplicity and its procession signify

enhancement or attenuation. For the most part, in fact, involution,

\_complicatio\_ (which, moreover, always means merely a primal, germinal

condition, never, as in Leibnitz, the return thereto) represents the more

perfect condition. The chief examples of the relation of involution and

evolution are the principles in which science is involved and out of which

it is unfolded; the unit, which is related to numbers in a similar way;

the spirit and the cognitive operations; God and his creatures. However

obscure and unskillful this application of the idea of development may

appear, yet it is indisputable that a discovery of great promise has been

made, accompanied by a joyful consciousness of its fruitfulness. Of the

numberless features which point backward to the Middle Ages, only one need

be mentioned, the large space taken up by speculations concerning the

God-man (the whole third book of the \_De Docta Ignorantia\_), and by those concerning the angels. Yet even here a change is noticeable, for the earthly and the divine are brought into most intimate relation, while in Thomas Aquinas, for instance, they form two entirely separate worlds. In short, the new view of the world appears in Nicolas still bound on every hand by mediaeval conceptions. A century and a half passed before the fetters, grown rusty in the meanwhile, broke under the bolder touch of

Giordano Bruno.

[Footnote 1: The attention of our philosopher was called to the natural sciences, and thus also to geography, which at this time was springing into new life, by his friend Paul Toscanelli, the Florentine. Nicolas was the first to have the map of Germany engraved (cf. S. Ruge in \_Globus\_, vol. lx., No. I, 1891), which, however, was not completed until long after his death, and issued in 1491.]

[Footnote 2: On the modern elements in his theory of the state and of right, cf. Gierke, \_Das deutsche Genossenschaftsrecht\_, vol. iii. § II, 1881.]

%2. The Revival of Ancient Philosophy and the Opposition to it%.

Italy is the home of the Renaissance and the birthplace of important new ideas which give the intellectual life of the sixteenth century its character of brave endeavor after high and distant ends. The enthusiasm for ancient literature already aroused by the native

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poets, Dante (1300),
Petrarch (1341), and Boccaccio (1350), was nourished by
the influx of Greek
scholars, part of whom came in pursuance of an
invitation to the Council of
Ferrara and Florence (1438) called in behalf of the
union of the Churches
(among these were Pletho and his pupil Bessarion;
Nicolas Cusanus was one
of the legates invited), while part were fugitives from
Constantinople
after its capture by the Turks in 1453. The Platonic
Academy, whose
most celebrated member, Marsilius Ficinus, translated
Plato and the
Neoplatonists into Latin, was founded in 1440 on the
suggestion of Georgius
Gemistus Pletho[1] under the patronage of Cosimo dei
Medici. The writings
of Pletho ("On the Distinction between Plato and
Aristotle"), of Bessarion
( Adversus Calumniatorem Platonis , 1469, in answer to
the Comparatio
Aristotelis et Platonis_, 1464, an attack by the
Aristotelian, George of
Trebizond, on Pletho's work), and of Ficinus ( Theologia
Platonica , 1482),
show that the Platonism which they favored was colored
by religious,
mystical, and Neoplatonic elements. If for Bessarion and
Ficinus, just as
for the Eclectics of the later Academy, there was
scarcely any essential
distinction between the teachings of Plato, of
Aristotle, and of
Christianity; this confusion of heterogeneous elements
was soon carried
much farther, when the two Picos (John Pico of
Mirandola, died 1494, and
his nephew Francis, died 1533) and Johann Reuchlin ( De
Verbo Mirifico ,
1494; De Arte Cabbalistica , 1517), who had been
influenced by the former,
introduced the secret doctrines of the Jewish Cabala
into the Platonic
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philosophy, and Cornelius Agrippa von Nettesheim of Cologne ( De Occulta

Philosophia\_, 1510; cf. Sigwart, \_Kleine Schriften\_, vol. i. p. 1 seq.)

made the mixture still worse by the addition of the magic art. The impulse

of the modern spirit to subdue nature is here already apparent, only that

it shows inexperience in the selection of its instruments; before long,

however, nature will willingly unveil to observation and calm reflection

the secrets which she does not yield to the compulsion of magic.

[Footnote 1: Pletho died at an advanced age in 1450. His chief work, the

[Greek: Nomoi], was given to the flames by his Aristotelian opponent,

Georgius Scholarius, surnamed Gennadius, Patriarch of Constantinople.

Portions of it only, which had previously become known, have been

preserved. On Pletho's life and teachings, cf. Fritz Schultze, \_G.G.

Plethon\_, Jena, 1874.

A similar romantic figure was Phillipus Aureolus Theophrastus Bombast

Paracelsus[1] von Hohenheim (1493-1541), a traveled Swiss, who endeavored

to reform medicine from the standpoint of chemistry. Philosophy for

Paracelsus is knowledge of nature, in which observation and thought

must co-operate; speculation apart from experience and worship of the

paper-wisdom of the ancients lead to no result. The world is a living

whole, which, like man, the microcosm, in whom the whole content of

the macrocosm is concentrated as in an extract, runs its life course.

Originally all things were promiscuously intermingled in a unity, the

God-created \_prima materia\_, as though inclosed in a
germ, whence the

manifold, with its various forms and colors, proceeded by separation.

The development then proceeds in such a way that in each genus that is

perfected which is posited therein, and does not cease until, at the last

day, all that is possible in nature and history shall have fulfilled

itself. But the one indwelling life of nature lives in all the manifold

forms; the same laws rule in the human body as in the universe; that which

works secretly in the former lies open to the view in the latter, and the

world gives the clew to the knowledge of man. Natural becoming is brought

about by the chemical separation and coming together of substances; the

ultimate constituents revealed by analysis are the three fundamental

substances or primitive essences, quicksilver, sulphur, and salt, by which,

however, something more principiant is understood than the empirical

substances bearing these names: \_mercurius\_ means that which makes bodies

liquid, \_sulfur\_, that which makes them combustible,
\_sal\_, that which

makes them fixed and rigid. From these are compounded the four elements,

each of which is ruled by elemental spirits--earth by gnomes or pygmies,

water by undines or nymphs, air by sylphs, fire by salamanders (cf. with

this, and with Paracelsus's theory of the world as a whole, Faust's two

monologues in Goethe's drama); which are to be understood as forces

or sublimated substances, not as personal, demoniacal beings. To each

individual being there is ascribed a vital principle, the Archeus , an

individualization of the general force of nature,

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Vulcanus ; so also to
men. Disease is a checking of this vital principle by
contrary powers,
which are partly of a terrestrial and partly of a
sidereal nature; and the
choice of medicines is to be determined by their ability
to support the
Archeus against its enemies. Man is, however, superior
to nature--he is not
merely the universal animal, inasmuch as he is
completely that which other
beings are only in a fragmentary way; but, as the image
of God, he has also
an eternal element in him, and is capable of attaining
perfection through
the exercise of his rational judgment. Paracelsus
distinguishes three
worlds: the elemental or terrestrial, the astral or
celestial, and the
spiritual or divine. To the three worlds, which stand in
relations of
sympathetic interaction, there correspond in man the
body, which nourishes
itself on the elements, the spirit, whose imagination
receives its food,
sense and thoughts, from the spirits of the stars, and,
finally, the
immortal soul, which finds its nourishment in faith in
Christ. Hence
natural philosophy, astronomy, and theology are the
pillars of
anthropology, and ultimately of medicine. This fantastic
physic of
Paracelsus found many adherents both in theory and in
practice.[2] Among
those who accepted and developed it may be named R.
Fludd (died 1637), and
the two Van Helmonts, father and son (died 1644 and
1699).
[Footnote 1: On Paracelsus cf. Sigwart, Kleine
Schriften , vol. i. p. 25
seq.; Eucken, Beiträge zur Geschichteder neueren
Philosophie , p. 32 seq.;
Lasswitz, Geschichte der Atomistik, vol. i. p. 294
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[Footnote 2: The influence of Paracelsus, as of Vives and Campanella, is

evident in the great educator, Amos Comenius (Komensky, 1592-1670), whose

pansophical treatises appeared in 1637-68. On Comenius cf. Pappenheim,

Berlin, 1871; Kvacsala, Doctor's Dissertation, Leipsic, 1886; Walter

Mueller, Dresden, 1887.]

Beside the Platonic philosophy, others of the ancient systems were also

revived. Stoicism was commended by Justus Lipsius (died 1606) and Caspar

Schoppe (Scioppius, born 1562); Epicureanism was revived by Gassendi

(1647), and rhetorizing logicians went back to Cicero and Quintilian. Among

the latter were Laurentius Valla (died 1457); R.

Agricola (died 1485); the

Spaniard, Ludovicus Vives (1531), who referred inquiry from the authority

of Aristotle to the methodical utilization of experience; and Marius

Nizolius (1553), whose \_Antibarbarus\_ was reissued by Leibnitz in 1670.

The adherents of Aristotle were divided into two parties, one of which

relied on the naturalistic interpretation of the Greek exegete,

Alexander of Aphrodisias (about 200 A.D.), the other on the pantheistic

interpretation of the Arabian commentator, Averroës (died 1198). The

conflict over the question of immortality, carried on especially in Padua,

was the culmination of the battle. The Alexandrist asserted that, according

to Aristotle, the soul was mortal, the Averroists, that the rational part

which is common to all men was immortal; while to this were added the

further questions, if and how the Aristotelian view could be reconciled

with the Church doctrine, which demanded a continued personal existence.

The most eminent Aristotelian of the Renaissance, Petrus Pomponatius ( De

Immortalite Animae\_, 1516; \_De Fato, Libero Arbitrio,
Providentia et

Praedestinatione\_), was on the side of the Alexandrists. Achillini and

Niphus fought on the other side. Caesalpin (died 1603), Zabarella, and

Cremonini assumed an intermediate, or, at least, a less decided position.

Still others, as Faber Stapulensis in Paris (1500), and Desiderius Erasmus

(1520), were more interested in securing a correct text of Aristotle's

works than in his philosophical principles.

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Among the Anti-Aristotelians only two famous names need be mentioned, that

of the influential Frenchman, Petrus Ramus, and the German, Taurellus.

Pierre de la Ramée (assassinated in the massacre of St. Bartholomew,

1572), attacked the (unnatural and useless) Aristotelian logic in his

\_Aristotelicae Animadversiones\_, 1543, objecting, with the Ciceronians

mentioned above, to the separation of logic and rhetoric; and attempted a

new logic of his own, in his \_Institutiones
Dialecticae , which, in spite

of its formalism, gained acceptance, especially in Germany.[1] Nicolaus

Oechslein, Latinized Taurellus (born in 1547 at Mömpelgard; at his death,

in 1606, professor of medicine in the University of Altdorf), stood quite

alone because of his independent position in reference to all philosophical

and religious parties. His most important works were his

## \_Philosophiae

Triumphus\_, 1573; \_Synopsis Aristotelis Metaphysicae\_, 1596; Alpes Caesae\_

(against Caesalpin, and the title punning on his name), 1597; and De Rerum

Aeternitate\_, 1604.[2] The thought of Taurellus inclines toward the ideal of

a Christian philosophy; which, however, Scholasticism, in his view, did

not attain, inasmuch as its thought was heathen in its blind reverence

for Aristotle, even though its faith was Christian. In order to heal this

breach between the head and the heart, it is necessary in religion to

return from confessional distinctions to Christianity itself, and in

philosophy, to abandon authority for the reason. We should not seek to be

Lutherans or Calvinists, but simply Christians, and we should judge on

rational grounds, instead of following Aristotle, Averroës, or Thomas

Aquinas. Anyone who does not aim at the harmony of theology and philosophy,

is neither a Christian nor a philosopher. One and the same God is the

primal source of both rational and revealed truth. Philosophy is the basis

of theology, theology the criterion and complement of philosophy. The one

starts with effects evident to the senses and leads to the suprasensible,

to the First Cause; the other follows the reverse course. To philosophy

belongs all that Adam knew or could know before the fall; had there been no

sin, there would have been no other than philosophical knowledge. But after

the fall, the reason, which informs us, it is true, of the moral law, but

not of the divine purpose of salvation, would have led us to despair, since

neither punishment nor virtue could justify us, if revelation did not teach

us the wonders of grace and redemption. Although Taurellus thus softens the

opposition between theology and philosophy, which had been most sharply

expressed in the doctrine of "twofold truth" (that which is true in

philosophy may be false in theology, and conversely), and endeavors to

bring the two into harmony, the antithesis between God and the world still

remains for him immovably fixed. God is not things, though he is all. He

is pure affirmation; all without him is composed, as it were, of being and

nothing, and can neither be nor be known independently:
 negatio non nihil

est, alias nec esset nec intelligeretur, sed limitatio est affirmationis\_.

Simple being or simple affirmation is equivalent to infinity, eternity,

unity, uniqueness, -- properties which do not belong to the world. He who

posits things as eternal, sublates God. God and the world are opposed to

each other as infinite cause and finite effect.

Moreover, as it is our

spirit which philosophizes and not God's spirit in us, so the faith through

which man appropriates Christ's merit is a free action of the human spirit,

the capacity for which is inborn, not infused from above; in it, God acts

merely as an auxiliary or remote cause, by removing the obstacles which

hinder the operation of the power of faith. With this anti-pantheistic

tendency he combines an anti-intellectualistic one-being and production

precedes and stands higher than contemplation; God's activity does not

consist in thought but in production, and human blessedness, not in the

knowledge but the love of God, even though the latter presupposes the

former. While man, as an end in himself, is immortal--

and the whole man,
not his soul merely--the world of sense, which has been
created only for
the conservation of man (his procreation and probation),
must disappear;
above this world, however, a higher rears its walls to
subserve man's
eternal happiness.

[Footnote 1: On Ramus cf. Waddington's treatises, one in

Latin, Paris,
1849, the other in French, Paris, 1855.]

[Footnote 2: Schmid Schwarzenburg has written on Taurellus, 1860, 2d ed., 1864.]

The high regard which Leibnitz expressed for Taurellus may be in part

explained by the many anticipations of his own thoughts to be found in

the earlier writer. The intimate relation into which sensibility and

understanding are brought is an instance of this from the theory of

knowledge. Receptivity is not passivity, but activity arrested (through the

body). All knowledge is inborn; all men are potential philosophers (and, so

far as they are loyal to conscience, Christians); the spirit is a thinking

and a thinkable universe. Taurellus's philosophy of nature, recognizing

the relative truth of atomism, makes the world consist of manifold simple

substances combined into formal unity: he calls it a well constructed

system of wholes. A discussion of the origin of evil is also given, with a

solution based on the existence and misuse of freedom. Finally, it is to

be mentioned to the great credit of Taurellus, that, like his younger

contemporaries, Galileo and Kepler, he vigorously opposed the Aristotelian

and Scholastic animation of the material world and the anthropomorphic

conception of its forces, thus preparing the way for the modern view of

nature to be perfected by Newton.

## %3. The Italian Philosophy of Nature%.

We turn now from the restorers of ancient doctrines and their opponents to

the men who, continuing the opposition to the authority of Aristotle, point

out new paths for the study of nature. The physician, Hieronymus Cardanus

of Milan (1501-76), whose inclinations toward the fanciful were restrained,

though not suppressed, by his mathematical training, may be considered the

forerunner of the school. While the people should accept the dogmas of the

Church with submissive faith, the thinker may and should subordinate all

things to the truth. The wise man belongs to that rare class who neither

deceive nor are deceived; others are either deceivers or deceived, or both.

In his theory of nature, Cardanus advances two principles: one passive,

matter (the three cold and moist elements), and an active, formative one,

the world-soul, which, pervading the All and bringing it into unity,

appears as warmth and light. The causes of motion are attraction and

repulsion, which in higher beings become love and hate. Even superhuman

spirits, the demons, are subject to the mechanical laws of nature.

The standard bearer of the Italian philosophy of nature was Bernardinus

Telesius[1] of Cosenza (1508-88; \_De Rerum Natura juxta Propria Principia ,

1565, enlarged 1586), the founder of a scientific

society in Naples called

the Telesian, or after the name of his birthplace, the Cosentian Academy.

Telesius maintained that the Aristotelian doctrine must be replaced by an

unprejudiced empiricism; that nature must be explained from itself, and by

as few principles as possible. Beside inert matter, this requires only two

active forces, on whose interaction all becoming and all life depend. These

are warmth, which expands, and cold, which contracts; the former resides in

the sun and thence proceeds, the latter is situated in the earth. Although

Telesius acknowledges an immaterial, immortal soul, he puts the emphasis

on sensuous experience, without which the understanding is incapable of

attaining certain knowledge. He is a sensationalist both in the theory of

knowledge and in ethics, holding the functions of judgment and thought

deducible from the fundamental power of perception, and considering the

virtues different manifestations of the instinct of self-preservation

(which he ascribes to matter as well).

[Footnote 1: Cf. on Telesius, Florentine, 2 vols., Naples, 1872-74; K.

Heiland, \_Erkenntnisslehre und Ethik des Telesius\_, Doctor's Dissertation

at Leipsic, 1891. Further, Rixner and Siber, \_Leben und Lehrmeinungen

berühmter Physiker am Ende des XVI. und am Anfang des XVII. Jahrhunderts\_,

Sulzbach (1819-26), 7 Hefte, 2d ed., 1829. Hefte 2-6 discuss Cardanus,

Telesius, Patritius, Bruno, and Campanella; the first is devoted to

Paracelsus, and the seventh to the older Van Helmont (Joh. Bapt.).]

With the name of Telesius we usually associate that of

Franciscus Patritius

(1529-97), professor of the Platonic philosophy in Ferrara and Rome

\_(Discussiones Peripateticae,\_ 1581; \_Nova de Universis Philosophia\_,

1591), who, combining Neoplatonic and Telesian principles, holds that the

incorporeal or spiritual light emanates from the divine original light, in

which all reality is seminally contained; the heavenly or ethereal

light from the incorporeal; and the earthly or corporeal, from the

heavenly--while the original light divides into three persons, the One and

All \_(Unomnia)\_, unity or life, and spirit.

The Italian philosophy of nature culminates in Bruno and Campanella, of

whom the former, although he is the earlier, appears the more advanced

because of his freer attitude toward the Church. Giordano Bruno was born

in 1548 at Nola, and educated at Naples; abandoning his membership in the

Dominican Order, he lived, with various changes of residence, in France,

England, and Germany. Returning to his native land, he was arrested in

Venice and imprisoned for seven years at Rome, where, on February 17, 1600,

he suffered death at the stake, refusing to recant. (The same fate overtook

his fellow-countryman, Vanini, in 1619, at Toulouse.) Besides three

didactic poems in Latin (Frankfort, 1591), the Italian dialogues, \_Della

Causa, Principio ed Uno\_, Venice, 1584 (German translation by Lasson,

1872), are of chief importance. The Italian treatises have been edited by

Wagner, Leipsic, 1829, and by De Lagarde, 2 vols., Göttingen, 1888; the

Latin appeared at Naples, in 3 vols., 1880, 1886, and 1891. Of a passionate

and imaginative nature, Bruno was not an essentially creative thinker, but

borrowed the ideas which he proclaimed with burning enthusiasm and lofty

eloquence, and through which he has exercised great influence on later

philosophy, from Telesius and Nicolas, complaining the while that the

priestly garb of the latter sometimes hindered the free movement of his

thought. Beside these thinkers he has a high regard for Pythagoras, Plato,

Lucretius, Raymundus Lullus, and Copernicus (died 1543).[1] He forms the

transition link between Nicolas of Cusa and Leibnitz, as also the link

between Cardanus and Spinoza. To Spinoza Bruno offered the naturalistic

conception of God (God is the "first cause" immanent in the universe, to

which self-manifestation or self-revelation is essential; He is natura

naturans\_, the numberless worlds are \_natura naturata\_); Leibnitz he

anticipated by his doctrine of the "monads," the individual, imperishable

elements of the existent, in which matter and form, incorrectly divorced by

Aristotle as though two antithetical principles, constitute one unity.

The characteristic traits of the philosophy of Bruno are the lack of

differentiation between pantheistic and individualistic elements, the

mediaeval animation and endlessness of the world, and, finally, the

religious relation to the universe or the extravagant deification of nature

(nature and the world are entirely synonymous, the All, the world-soul,

and God nearly so, while even matter is called a divine being).[2]

[Footnote 1: Nicolaus Copernicus (Koppernik; 1473-1543) was born at Thorn;

studied astronomy, law, and medicine at Cracow, Bologna, and Padua; and

died a Canon of Frauenberg. His treatise, \_De Revolutionibus Orbium

Caelestium\_, which was dedicated to Pope Paul III., appeared at Nuremberg

in 1543, with a preface added to it by the preacher, Andreas Osiander,

which calls the heliocentric system merely an hypothesis advanced as a

basis for astronomical calculations. Copernicus reached his theory rather

by speculation than by observation; its first suggestion came from the

Pythagorean doctrine of the motion of the earth. On Copernicus cf. Leop.

Prowe, vol. i. \_Copernicus Leben\_, vol. ii.
( Urkunden ), Berlin, 1883-84;

and K. Lohmeyer in Sybel's \_Historische Zeitschrift\_, vol. lvii., 1887.]

[Footnote 2: Cf. on Bruno, H. Brunnhofer (somewhat too enthusiastic),

Leipsic, 1882; also Sigwart, \_Kleine Schriften\_, vol. i.
p. 49 \_seq\_.]

Bruno completes the Copernican picture of the world by doing away with the

motionless circle of fixed stars with which Copernicus, and even Kepler,

had thought our solar system surrounded, and by opening up the view into

the immeasurability of the world. With this the Aristotelian antithesis of

the terrestrial and the celestial is destroyed. The infinite space (filled

with the aether) is traversed by numberless bodies, no one of which

constitutes the center of the world. The fixed stars are suns, and, like

our own, surrounded by planets. The stars are formed of the same materials

as the earth, and are moved by their own souls or forms, each a living

being, each also the residence of infinitely numerous

living beings of

various degrees of perfection, in whose ranks man by no means takes the

first place. All organisms are composed of minute elements, called \_minima\_

or monads; each monad is a mirror of the All; each at once corporeal and

soul-like, matter and form, each eternal; their combinations alone being

in constant change. The universe is boundless in time, as in space;

development never ceases, for the fullness of forms which slumber in the

womb of matter is inexhaustible. The Absolute is the primal unity, exalted

above all antitheses, from which all created being is unfolded and in which

it remains included. All is one, all is out of God and in God. In

the living unity of the universe, also, the two sides, the spiritual

(world-soul), and the corporeal (universal matter), are distinguishable,

but not separate. The world-reason pervades in its omnipresence the

greatest and the smallest, but in varying degrees. It weaves all into

one great system, so that if we consider the whole, the conflicts and

contradictions which rule in particulars disappear, resolved into the

most perfect harmony. Whoever thus regards the world, becomes filled with

reverence for the Infinite and bends his will to the divine law--from true

science proceed true religion and true morality, those of the spiritual

hero, of the heroic sage.

Thomas Campanella[1] (1568-1639) was no less dependent on Nicolas and

Telesius than Bruno. A Calabrian by birth like Telesius, whose writings

filled him with aversion to Aristotle, a Dominican like Bruno, he was

deprived of his freedom on an unfounded suspicion of conspiracy against the

Spanish rule, spent twenty-seven years in prison, and died in Paris after a

short period of quiet. Renewing an old idea, Campanella directed attention

from the written volume of Scripture to the living book of nature as being

also a divine revelation. Theology rests on faith (in theology, Campanella,

in accordance with the traditions of his order, follows Thomas Aquinas);

philosophy is based on perception, which in its instrumental part comprises

mathematics and logic, and in its real part, the doctrine of nature and of

morals, while metaphysics treats of the highest presuppositions and the

ultimate grounds, -- the "pro-principles, " Campanella starts, as Augustine

before him and Descartes in later times, from the indisputable certitude of

the spirit's own existence, from which he rises to the certitude of God's

existence. On this first certain truth of my own existence there follow

three others: my nature consists in the three functions of power,

knowledge, and volition; I am finite and limited, might, wisdom, and

love are in man constantly intermingled with their opposites, weakness,

foolishness, and hate; my power, knowledge, and volition do not extend

beyond the present. The being of God follows from the idea of God in us,

which can have been derived from no other than an infinite source. It would

be impossible for so small a part of the universe as man to produce from

himself the idea of a being incomparably greater than the whole universe.

I attain a knowledge of God's nature from my own by thinking away from

the latter, in which, as in everything finite, being and

non-being are

intermingled, every limitation and negation, by raising to infinity

my positive fundamental powers, \_posse, cognoscere\_, and velle , or

\_potentia, sapientia\_, and \_amor\_, and by transferring them to him, who is

pure affirmation, \_ens\_ entirely without \_non-ens\_. Thus I reach as the

three pro-principles or primalities of the existent or the Godhead,

omnipotence, omniscience, and infinite love. But the infrahuman world may

also be judged after the analogy of our fundamental faculties. The

universe and all its parts possess souls; there is naught without

sensation; consciousness, it is true, is lacking in the lower creatures,

but they do not lack life, feeling, and desire, for it is impossible

for the animate to come from the inanimate. Everything loves and hates,

desires and avoids. Plants are motionless animals, and their roots,

mouths. Corporeal motion springs from an obscure, unconscious impulse of

self-preservation; the heavenly bodies circle about the sun as the center

of sympathy; space itself seeks a content \_(horror vacui ).

[Footnote 1: Campanella's works have been edited by Al. d'Ancona, Turin,

1854, Cf. Sigwart, \_Kleine Schriften\_, vol. i. p. 125 \_seq\_.]

The more imperfect a thing is, the more weakened is the divine being in it

by non-being and contingency. The entrance of the naught into the divine

reality takes place by degrees. First God projects from himself the ideal

or archetypal world (\_mundus archetypus\_), \_i.e.\_, the totality of the

possible. From this ideal world proceeds the metaphysical world of eternal

intelligences \_(mundus mentalis)\_, including the angels,
the world-soul,

and human spirits. The third product is the mathematical world of space

\_(mundus sempiternus\_), the object of geometry; the fourth, the temporal

or corporeal world; the fifth, and last, the empirical world (mundus

situalis\_), in which everything appears at a definite point in space and

time. All things not only love themselves and seek the conservation of

their own being, but strive back toward the original source of their being,

to God; \_i.e.\_, they possess religion. In man, natural and animal religion

are completed by rational religion, the limitations of which render a

revelation necessary. A religion can be considered divine only when it is

adapted to all, when it gains acceptance through miracles and virtue, and

when it contradicts neither natural ethics nor the reason. Religion is

union with God through knowledge, purity of will, and love. It is inborn,

a law of nature, not, as Machiavelli teaches, a political invention.

Campanella desired to see the unity in the divine government of the world

embodied in a pyramid of states with the papacy at the apex: above the

individual states was to come the province, then the kingdom, the empire,

the (Spanish) world-monarchy, and, finally, the universal dominion of the

Pope. The Church should be superior to the State, the vicegerent of God to

temporal rulers and to councils.

%4. Philosophy of the State and of Law%.

The originality of the modern doctrines of natural law was formerly

overestimated, as it was not known to how considerable an extent the way

had been prepared for them by the mediaeval philosophy of the state and of

law. It is evident from the equally rich and careful investigations of Otto

Gierke[1] that in the political and legal theories of a Bodin, a Grotius,

a Hobbes, a Rousseau, we have systematic developments of principles long

extant, rather than new principles produced with entire spontaneity. Their

merit consists in the principiant expression and accentuation and the

systematic development of ideas which the Middle Ages had produced, and

which in part belong to the common stock of Scholastic science, in part

constitute the weapons of attack for bold innovators. Marsilius of Padua

(\_Defensor Pacis\_, 1325), Occam (died 1347), Gerson (about 1400), and the

Cusan[2] \_(Concordantia Catholica\_, 1433) especially,
are now seen in a

different light. "Under the husk of the mediaeval system there is revealed

a continuously growing antique-modern kernel, which draws all the living

constituents out of the husk, and finally bursts it" (Gierke, Deutsches

Genossenschaftsrecht\_, vol. iii. p. 312). Without going beyond the

boundaries of the theocratico-organic view of the state prevalent in

the Middle Ages, most of the conceptions whose full development was

accomplished by the natural law of modern times were already employed in

the Scholastic period. Here we already find the idea of a transition on the

part of man from a pre-political natural state of freedom and equality into

the state of citizenship; the idea of the origin of the state by a contract (social and of submission); of the sovereignty of the ruler ( rex major populo; plenitudo potestatis ), and of popular sovereignty[3] ( populus major principe\_); of the original and inalienable prerogatives of the generality, and the innate and indestructible right of the individual to freedom; the thought that the sovereign power is superior to positive law (princeps legibus solutus ), but subordinate to natural law; even tendencies toward the division of powers (legislative and executive), and the representative system. These are germs which, at the fall of Scholasticism and the ecclesiastical reformation, gain light and air for free development.

[Footnote 1: Gierke, \_Johannes Althusius und die Entwickelung der naturrechtlichen Staatstheorien\_, Breslau, 1880; the same, \_Deutsches Genossenschaftsrecht\_, vol. iii. § II, Berlin, 1881. Cf. further, Sigm. Riezler, \_Die literarischen Widersacher der Päpste\_, Leipsic, 1874; A. Franck, \_Réformateurs et Publicistes de L'Europe\_, Paris, 1864.]

[Footnote 2: Nicolas' political ideas are discussed by T. Stumpf, Cologne, 1865.]

[Footnote 3: Cf. F. von Bezold, \_Die Lehre von der Volkssouveränität im Mittelalter\_, (Sybel's \_Historische Zeitschrift\_, vol. xxxvi., 1876).]

The modern theory of natural law, of which Grotius was the most influential representative, began with Bodin and Althusius. The former conceives

the contract by which the state is founded as an act of unconditional

submission on the part of the community to the ruler, the latter conceives

it merely as the issue of a (revocable) commission: in the view of the one,

the sovereignty of the people is entirely alienated, "transferred," in that

of the other, administrative authority alone is granted, "conceded," while

the sovereign prerogatives remain with the people. Bodin is the founder

of the theory of absolutism, to which Grotius and the school of Pufendorf

adhere, though in a more moderate form, and which Hobbes develops to the

last extreme. Althusius, on the other hand, by his systematic development

of the doctrine of social contract and the inalienable sovereignty of the

people, became the forerunner of Locke[1] and Rousseau.

[Footnote 1: Ulrich Huber (1674) may be called the first representative

of constitutionalism, and so the intermediate link between Althusius and

Locke. Cf. Gierke, \_Althusius\_, p. 290.]

The first independent political philosopher of the modern period was

Nicolo Machiavelli of Florence (1469-1527). Patriotism was the soul of his

thinking, questions of practical politics its subject, and historical fact

its basis.[1] He is entirely unscholastic and unecclesiastical. The power

and independence of the nation are for him of supreme importance, and the

greatness and unity of Italy, the goal of his political system. He

opposes the Church, the ecclesiastical state, and the papacy as the chief

hindrances to the attainment of these ends, and considers the means by

which help may be given to the Fatherland. In normal circumstances a

republican constitution, under which Sparta, Rome, and Venice have achieved

greatness, would be the best. But amid the corruption of the times, the

only hope of deliverance is from the absolute rule of a strong prince,

one not to be frightened back from severity and force. Should the ruler

endeavor to keep within the bounds of morality, he would inevitably be

ruined amid the general wickedness. Let him make himself liked, especially

make himself feared, by the people; let him be fox and lion together; let

him take care, when he must have recourse to bad means for the sake of the

Fatherland, that they are justified by the result, and still to preserve

the appearance of loyalty and honor when he is forced to act in their

despite--for the populace always judges by appearance and by results. The

worst thing of all is half-way measures, courses intermediate between good

and evil and vacillating between reason and force. Even Moses had to kill

the envious refractories, while Savonarola, the unarmed prophet, was

destroyed. God is the friend of the strong, energy the chief virtue; and

it is well when, as was the case with the ancient Romans, religion is

associated with it without paralyzing it. The current view of Christianity

as a religion of humility and sloth, which preaches only the courage

of endurance and makes its followers indifferent to worldly honor,

is unfavorable to the development of political vigor. The Italians have

been made irreligious by the Church and the priesthood; the nearer Rome,

the less pious the people. When Machiavelli, in his

proposals looking

toward Lorenzo (II.) dei Medici (died 1519), approves any means for

restoring order, it must be remembered that he has an exceptional case

in mind, that he does not consider deceit and severity just, but only

unavoidable amid the anarchy and corruption of the time. But neither the

loftiness of the end by which he is inspired, nor the low condition of

moral views in his time, justifies his treatment of the laws as mere means

to political ends, and his unscrupulous subordination of morality to

calculating prudence. Machiavelli's general view of the world and of life

is by no means a comforting one. Men are simple, governed by their passions

and by insatiable desires, dissatisfied with what they have, and inclined

to evil. They do good only of necessity; it is hunger which makes them

industrious and laws that render them good. Everything rapidly degenerates:

power produces quiet, quiet, idleness, then disorder, and, finally, ruin,

until men learn by misfortune, and so order and power again arise. History

is a continual rising and falling, a circle of order and disorder.

Governmental forms, even, enjoy no stability; monarchy, when it has run out

into tyranny, is followed by aristocracy, which gradually passes over into

oligarchy; this in turn is replaced by democracy, until, finally, anarchy

becomes unendurable, and a prince again attains power. No state, however,

is so powerful as to escape succumbing to a rival before it completes the

circuit. Protection against the corruption of the state is possible only

through the maintenance of its principles, and its restoration only by a

return to the healthy source whence it originated. This is secured either

by some external peril compelling to reflection, or internally, by wise

thought, by good laws (framed in accordance with the general welfare, and

not according to the ambition of a minority), and by the example of good men.

[Footnote 1: In his \_Essays on the First Decade of Livy (Discorsi)\_,

Machiavelli investigates the conditions and the laws of the maintenance of

states; while in \_The Prince (II Principe\_, 1515), he gives the principles

for the restoration of a ruined state. Besides these he wrote a history

of Florence, and a work on the art of war, in which he recommended the

establishment of national armies.]

In the interval between Machiavelli and the system of natural law of

Grotius, the Netherlander (1625: \_De Jure Belli et Pacis\_), belong the

socialistic ideal state of the Englishman, Thomas More ( De Optimo

Reipublicae Statu deque Nova Insula Utopia\_, 1516), the political theory of

the Frenchman, Jean Bodin (\_Six Livres de la République , 1577, Latin 1584;

also a philosophico-historical treatise, \_Methodus ad Facilem Historiarum

Cognitionem\_, and the \_Colloquium Heptaplomeres\_, edited by Noack, 1857),

and the law of war of the Italian, Albericus Gentilis, at his death

professor in Oxford (\_De Jure Belli\_, 1588). Common to these three was

the advocacy of religious tolerance, from which atheists alone were to

be excepted; common, also, their ethical standpoint in opposition to

Machiavelli, while they are at one with him in regard to

the liberation of

political and legal science from theology and the Church. With Gentilis

(1551-1611) this separation assigns the first five commandments to divine,

and the remainder to human law, the latter being based on the laws of human

nature (especially the social impulse). In place of this derivation of law

and the state from the nature of man, Jean Bodin (1530-96) insists on an

historical interpretation; endeavors, though not always with success, to

give sharp definitions of political concepts;[1] rejects composite

state forms, and among the three pure forms, monarchy, aristocracy, and

democracy, rates (hereditary) monarchy the highest, in which the subjects

obey the laws of the monarch, and the latter the laws of God or of nature

by respecting the freedom and the property of the citizens. So far, no

one has correctly distinguished between forms of the state and modes of

administration. Even a democratic state may be governed in a monarchical

or aristocratic way. So far, also, there has been a failure to take into

account national peculiarities and differences of situation, conditions to

which legislation must be adjusted. The people of the temperate zone are

inferior to those of the North in physical power and inferior to those of

the South in speculative ability, but superior to both in political gifts

and in the sense of justice. The nations of the North are guided by

force, those of the South by religion, those between the two by reason.

Mountaineers love freedom. A fruitful soil enervates  $\operatorname{men}$ , when less

fertile, it renders them temperate and industrious.

[Footnote 1: What is the state? What is sovereignty? The former is defined as the rational and supremely empowered control over a number of families and of whatever is common to them; the latter is absolute and continuous authority over the state, with the right of imposing laws without being bound by them. The prince, to whom the sovereignty has been unconditionally relinquished by the people in the contract of submission, is accountable to God alone.] Attention has only recently been called (by O. Gierke, in the work already mentioned, Heft vii. of his Untersuchungen zur deutschen Staats- und Rechtsgeschichte, Breslau, 1880) to the Westphalian, Johannes Althusius (Althusen or Althaus) as a legal philosopher worthy of notice. He was born, 1557, in the Grafschaft Witgenstein; was a teacher of law in Herborn and Siegen from 1586, and Syndic in Emden from 1604 to his death in 1638. His chief legal work was the Dicaeologica , 1617 (a recasting of a treatise on Roman law which appeared in 1586), and his chief political work the Politica , 1603 (altered and enlarged 1610, and reprinted, in addition, three times before his death and thrice subsequently). Down to the beginning of the eighteenth century he was esteemed or opposed as chief among the Monarchomachi, so called by the Scotchman, Barclay ( De Regno et Regali Potestate , 1600); since that time he has fallen into undeserved oblivion. The sovereign power ( majestas ) of the people is untransferable and indivisible, the authority vested in the chosen wielder of the administrative power is revocable, and the king is

merely the chief

functionary; individuals are subjects, it is true, but the community

retains its sovereignty and has its rights represented over against the

chief magistrate by a college of ephors. If the prince violates the

compact, the ephors are authorized and bound to depose the tyrant, and to

banish or execute him. There is but one normal state-form; monarchy and

polyarchy are mere differences in administrative forms. Mention should

finally be made of his valuation of the social groups which mediate between

the individual and the state: the body politic is based on the narrower

associations of the family, the corporation, the commune, and the province.

While with Bodin the historical, and with Gentilis the a priori method of

treatment predominates, Hugo Grotius[1] combines both standpoints. He bases

his system on the traditional distinction of two kinds of law. The origin

of positive law is historical, by voluntary enactment; natural law is

rooted in the nature of man, is eternal, unchangeable, and everywhere the

same. He begins by distinguishing with Gentilis the \_jus humanum\_ from the

\_jus divinum\_ given in the Scriptures. The former determines, on the one

hand, the legal relations of individuals, and, on the other, those of whole

nations; it is \_jus personale\_ and \_jus gentium\_.[2]

[Footnote 1: Hugo de Groot lived 1583-1645. He was born in Delft, became

Fiscal of Holland in 1607, and Syndic of Rotterdam and member of the States

General in 1613. A leader of the aristocratic party with Oldenbarneveld, he

adhered to the Arminians or Remonstrants, was thrown

into prison, freed in

1621 through the address of his wife, and fled to Paris, where he lived

till 1631 as a private scholar, and, from 1635, as Swedish ambassador. Here

he composed his epoch-making work, \_De Jure Belli et Pacis , 1625. Previous

to this had appeared his treatise, \_De Veritate Religionis Christianae ,

1619, and the \_Mare Liberum\_, 1609, the latter a chapter from his maiden

work, \_De Jure Praedae\_, which was not printed until
1868.]

[Footnote 2: The meaning which Grotius here gives to \_jus gentium\_

(=international law), departs from the customary usage of the Scholastics,

with whom it denotes the law uniformly acknowledged among all nations.

Thomas Aquinas understands by it, in distinction to \_jus naturale\_ proper,

the sum of the conclusions deduced from this as a result of the development

of human culture and its departure from primitive purity. Cf. Gierke,

\_Althusius\_, p. 273; \_Deutsches Genossenschaftsrecht\_, vol. iii. p. 612.

On the meaning of natural law cf. Gierke's Inaugural Address as Rector at

Breslau, \_Naturrecht und Deutsches Recht\_, Frankfort-on-the-Main, 1883.]

The distinction between natural and conventional law which has been already

mentioned, finds place within both: the positive law of persons is called

\_jus civile\_, and the positive law of nations, \_jus gentium voluntarium .

Positive law has its origin in regard for utility, while unwritten law

finds its source neither in this nor (directly) in the will of God,[1] but

in the rational nature of man. Man is by nature social, and, as a rational

being, possesses the impulse toward ordered association. Unlawful means

whatever renders such association of rational beings impossible, as the

violation of promises or the taking away and retention of the property

of others. In the (pre-social) state of nature, all belonged to all, but

through the act of taking possession \_(occupatio)\_ property arises (sea and

air are excluded from appropriation). In the state of nature everyone has

the right to defend himself against attack and to revenge himself on the

evil-doer; but in the political community, founded by contract, personal

revenge is replaced by punishment decreed by the civil power. The aim of

punishment is not retribution, but reformation and deterrence. It belongs

to God alone to punish because of sin committed, the state can punish only

to prevent it. (The antithesis \_quia peccatum est\_--\_ne peccetur\_ comes from Seneca.)

[Footnote 1: Natural law would be valid even if there were no God. With these words the alliance between the modern and the mediaeval philosophy of

law is severed.]

This energetic revival of the distinction already common in the Middle Ages

between "positive and natural," which Lord Herbert of Cherbury brought

forward at the same period (1624) in the philosophy of religion, gave the

catchword for a movement in practical philosophy whose developments extend

into the nineteenth century. Not only the illumination period, but all

modern philosophy down to Kant and Fichte, is under the ban of the

antithesis, natural and artificial. In all fields, in

ethics as well as in

noëtics, men return to the primitive or storm back to it, in the hope of

finding there the source of all truth and the cure for all evils. Sometimes

it is called nature, sometimes reason (natural law and rational law are

synonymous, as also natural religion and the religion of the reason), by

which is understood that which is permanent and everywhere the same in

contrast to the temporary and the changeable, that which is innate in

contrast to that which has been developed, in contrast, further, to that

which has been revealed. Whatever passes as law in all places and at all

times is natural law, says Grotius; that which all men believe forms the

content of natural religion, says Lord Herbert. Before long it comes to

be said: that \_alone\_ is genuine, true, healthy, and valuable which has

eternal and universal validity; all else is not only superfluous and

valueless but of evil, for it must be unnatural and corrupt. This step is

taken by Deism, with the principle that whatever is not natural or rational

in the sense indicated is unnatural and irrational. Parallel phenomena are

not wanting, further, in the philosophy of law (Gierke, Althusius ). But

these errors must not be too harshly judged. The confidence with which they

were made sprang from the real and the historical force of their underlying idea.

As already stated, the "natural" forms the antithesis to the supernatural,

on the one hand, and to the historical, on the other. This combination of

the revealed and the historical will not appear strange, if we remember

that the mediaeval view of the world under criticism was, as Christian,

historico-religious, and, moreover, that for the philosophy of religion the

two in fact coincide, inasmuch as revelation is conceived as an historical

event, and the historical religions assume the character of revealed. The

term arbitrary, applied to both in common, was questionable, however: as

revelation is a divine decree, so historical institutions are the products

of human enactment, the state, the result of a contract, dogmas, inventions

of the priesthood, \_the results of development, artificial constructions !

It took long ages for man to free himself from the idea of the artificial

and conventional in his view of history. Hegel was the first to gather

the fruit whose seeds had been sown by Leibnitz, Lessing, Herder, and the

historical school of law. As often, however, as an attempt was made from

this standpoint of origins to show laws in the course of history, only one

could be reached, a law of necessary degeneration, interrupted at times

by sudden restorations--thus the Deists, thus Machiavelli and Rousseau.

Everything degenerates, science itself only contributes to the

fall--therefore, back to the happy beginnings of things!

If, finally, we inquire into the position of the Church in regard to the

questions of legal philosophy, we may say that, among the Protestants,

Luther, appealing to the Scripture text, declares rulers ordained by God

and sacred, though at the same time he considers law and politics but

remotely related to the inner man; that Melancthon, in his \_Elements of

Ethics\_ (1538), as in all his philosophical text-

books,[1] went back to Aristotle, but found the source of natural law in the Decaloque, being followed in this by Oldendorp (1539), Hemming (1562), and B. Winkler  $(1615) \cdot [2]$ [Footnote 1: The edition of Melancthon's works by Bretschneider and Bindseil gives the ethical treatises in vol. xvi. and the other philosophical treatises in vol. xiii. (in part also in vols. xi. and xx.).] [Footnote 2: Cf. C.v. Kaltenborn, Die Vorläufer des Hugo Grotius , Leipsic, 1848.] On the Catholic side, the Jesuits (the Order was founded in 1534, and confirmed in 1540), on the one hand, revived the Pelagian theory of freedom in opposition to the Luthero-Augustinian doctrine of the servitude of the will, and, on the other, defended the natural origin of the state in a (revocable) contract in opposition to its divine origin asserted by the Reformers, and the sovereignty of the people even to the sanctioning of tyrannicide. Bellarmin (1542-1621) taught that the prince derives his authority from the people, and as the latter have given him power, so they retain the natural right to take it back and bestow it elsewhere. The view of Juan Mariana (1537-1624; De Rege , 1599) is that, as the people in transferring rights to the prince retain still greater power themselves, they are entitled in given cases to call the king to account. If he corrupts the state by evil manners, and, degenerating into the tyrant, despises religion and the laws, he may, as a public

enemy, be deprived by anyone of his authority and his life. It is lawful to arrest tyranny in any way, and those have always been highly esteemed who, from devotion to the public welfare, have sought to kill the tyrant.

## %5. Skepticism in France.%

Toward the end of the sixteenth century, and in the very country which was

to become the cradle of modern philosophy, there appeared, as a forerunner

of the new thinking, a skepticism in which that was taken for complete

and ultimate truth which with Descartes constitutes merely a moment or

transition point in the inquiry. The earliest and the most ingenious among

the representatives of this philosophy of doubt was Michel de Montaigne

(1533-92), who in his \_Essays\_--which were the first of their kind and soon

found an imitator in Bacon; they appeared in 1580 in two volumes, with an

additional volume in 1588--combined delicate observation and keen thinking,

boldness and prudence, elegance and solidity. The French honor him as one

of their foremost writers. The most important among these treatises or

essays is considered to be the "Apology for Raymond of Sabunde" (ii. 12)

with valuable excursuses on faith and knowledge.

Montaigne bases his doubt

on the diversity of individual views, each man's opinion differing from his

fellow's, while truth must be one. There exists no certain, no universally

admitted knowledge. The human reason is feeble and blind in all things,

knowledge is deceptive, especially the philosophy of the day, which clings

to tradition, which fills the memory with learned note-

stuff, but leaves

the understanding void and, instead of things,

interprets interpretations

only. Both sensuous and rational knowledge are untrustworthy: the former,

because it cannot be ascertained whether its deliverances conform to

reality, and the latter, because its premises, in order to be valid, need

others in turn for their own establishment, etc., \_ad infinitum\_. Every

advance in inquiry makes our ignorance the more evident; the doubter alone

is free. But though certainty is denied us in regard to truth, it is not

withheld in regard to duty. In fact, a twofold rule of practical life is

set up for us: nature, or life in accordance with nature and founded on

self-knowledge, and supernatural revelation, the Gospel (to be understood

only by the aid of divine grace). Submission to the divine ruler and

benefactor is the first duty of the rational soul. From obedience proceeds

every virtue, from over-subtlety and conceit, which is the product of

fancied knowledge, comes every sin. Montaigne, like all who know men, has

a sharp eye for human frailty. He depicts the universal weakness of human

nature and the corruption of his time with great vivacity and not without a

certain pleasure in the obscene; and besides folly and passion, complains

above all of the fact that so few understand the art of enjoyment, of which

he, a true man of the world, was master.

The skeptico-practical standpoint of Montaigne was developed into a system

by the Paris preacher, Pierre Charron (1541-1603), in his three books \_On

Wisdom\_ (1601). Doubt has a double object: to keep alive the spirit

of inquiry and to lead us on to faith. From the fact that reason and

experience are liable to deception and that the mind has at its disposal no

means of distinguishing truth from falsehood, it follows that we are born

not to possess truth but to seek it. Truth dwells alone in the bosom of

God; for us doubt and investigation are the only good amid all the error

and tribulation which surround us. Life is all misery. Man is capable of

mediocrity alone; he can neither be entirely good nor entirely evil; he is

weak in virtue, weak in vice, and the best degenerates in his hands. Even

religion suffers from the universal imperfection. It is dependent on

nationality and country, and each religion is based on its predecessor;

the supernatural origin of which all religions boast belongs in fact

to Christianity alone, which is to be accepted with humility and with

submission of the reason. Charron lays chief emphasis, however, on the

practical side of Christianity, the fulfillment of duty; and the "wisdom"

which forms the subject of his book is synonymous with uprightness

(\_probité\_), the way to which is opened up by selfknowledge and whose

reward is repose of spirit. And yet we are not to practice it for the

sake of the reward, but because nature and reason, i.e., God, absolutely

(entirely apart from the pleasurable results of virtue) require us to be

good. True uprightness is more than mere legality, for even when outward

action is blameless, the motives may be mixed. "I desire men to be upright

without paradise and hell." Religion seeks to crown morality, not to

generate it; virtue is earlier and more natural than

piety. In his

definition of the relation between religion and ethics, his delimitation

of morality from legality, and his insistence on the purity of motives (do

right, because the inner rational law commands it), an anticipation of

Kantian principles may be recognized.

Under Francis Sanchez (died 1632; his chief work is entitled Quod Nihil

Scitur\_), a Portuguese by birth, and professor of
medicine in Montpellier

and Toulouse, skepticism was transformed from melancholy contemplation into

a fresh, vigorous search after new problems. In the place of book-learning,

which disgusts him by its smell of the closet, its continued prating of

Aristotle, and its self-exhaustion in useless verbalism, Sanchez desires

to substitute a knowledge of things. Perfect knowledge, it is true, can be

hoped for only when subject and object correspond to each other. But how

is finite man to grasp the infinite universe? Experience, the basis of

all knowledge, gropes about the outer surface of things and illumines

particulars only, without the ability either to penetrate to their inner

nature or to comprehend the whole. We know only what we produce. Thus

God knows the world which he has made, but to us is vouchsafed merely an

insight into mediate or second causes, \_causae
secundae\_. Here, however,

a rich field still lies open before philosophy--only let her attack her

problem with observation and experiment rather than with words.

The French nation, predisposed to skepticism by its prevailing acuteness,

has never lacked representatives of skeptical

philosophy. The transition
from the philosophers of doubt whom we have described to
the great Bayle
was formed by La Mothe le Vayer (died 1672; \_Five
Dialogues\_, 1671), the
tutor of Louis XIV., and P.D. Huet(ius), Bishop of
Avranches (died 1721),
who agreed in holding that a recognition of the weakness
of the reason is
the best preparation for faith.

## 6. %German Mysticism%.

In a period which has given birth to a skeptical philosophy, one never looks in vain for the complementary phenomenon of mysticism. The stone offered by doubt in place of bread is incapable of satisfying the impulse after knowledge, and when the intellect grows weary and despairing, the heart starts out in the quest after truth. Then its path leads inward, the mind turns in upon itself, seeks to learn the truth by inner experience and life, by inward feeling and possession, and waits in quietude for divine illumination. The German mysticism of Eckhart[1] (about 1300), which had been continued in Suso and Tauler and had received a practical direction in the Netherlands, -- Ruysbroek (about 1350) to Thomas à Kempis (about 1450), -- now puts forth new branches and blossoms at the turning point of the centuries.

[Footnote 1: Master Eckhart's \_Works\_ have been edited by F. Pfeiffer,
Leipsic, 1857. The following have written on him: Jos. Bach, Vienna, 1864;
Ad. Lasson, Berlin, 1868; the same, in the second part of Ueberweg's
Grundriss , last section; Denifle, in the Archiv für

Litteratur und
Kulturgeschichte des Mittelalters\_. ii. 417 \_seq\_.; H.
Siebeck,
\_Der Begriff des Gemuts in der deutschen Mystik
(Beiträge zur
Entstehungsgeschichte der neueren Psychologie\_, i),
Giessen Programme,
1891.]

Luther himself was originally a mystic, with a high appreciation of Tauler and Thomas à Kempis, and published in 1518 that attractive little book by an anonymous Frankfort author, the German Theology . When, later, he fell into literalism, it was the mysticism of German Protestantism which, in opposition to the new orthodoxy, held fast to the original principle of the Reformation, \_i.e.\_, to the principle that faith is not assent to historical facts, not the acceptance of dogmas, but an inner experience, a renewal of the whole man. Religion and theology must not be confounded. Religion is not doctrine, but a new birth. With Schwenckfeld, and also with Franck, mysticism is still essentially pietism; with Weigel, and by the addition of ideas from Paracelsus, it is transformed into theosophy, and as

Caspar Schwenckfeld sought to spiritualize the Lutheran movement and protested against its being made into a pastors' religion. Though he had been aroused by Luther's pioneer feat, he soon saw that the latter had not gone far enough; and in his \_Letter on the Eucharist\_, 1527, he defined the points of difference between Luther's view of the Sacrament and his own. Luther, he maintained, had fallen back to an historical view of faith,

such reaches its culmination in Böhme.

whereas the faith which saves can never consist in the outward acceptance

of an historical fact. He who makes salvation dependent on preaching and

the Sacrament, confuses the invisible and the visible Church, Ecclesia

interna\_ and \_externa\_. The layman is his own priest.

According to Sebastian Franck (1500-45), there are in man, as in everything

else, two principles, one divine and one selfish, Christ and Adam, an

inner and an outer man; if he submits himself to the former (by a timeless

choice), he is spiritual, if to the latter, carnal. God is not the cause

of sin, but man, who turns the divine power to good or evil. He who denies

himself to live God is a Christian, whether he knows and confesses

the Gospel or not. Faith does not consist in assent, but in inner

transformation. The historical element in Christianity and its ceremonial

observances are only the external form and garb (its "figure"), have merely

a symbolic significance as media of communication, as forms of revelation

for the eternal truth, proclaimed but not founded by Christ; the Bible is

merely the shadow of the living Word of God.

Valentin Weigel (born in 1533, pastor in Zschopau from 1567), whose works

were not printed until after his death, combines his predecessors' doctrine

of inner and eternal Christianity with the microcosmos-idea of Paracelsus.

God, who lacks nothing, has not created the world in order to gain, but in

order to give. Man not only bears the earthly world in his body, and the

heavenly world of the angels in his reason (his spirit), but by virtue of

his intellect (his immortal soul) participates in the

divine world also. As

he is thus a microcosm and, moreover, an image of God, all his knowledge

becomes self-knowledge, both sensuous perception (which is not caused by

the object, but only occasioned by it), and the knowledge of God. The

literalist knows not God, but he alone who bears God in himself. Man

is favored above other beings with the freedom to dwell in himself or

in God. When man came out from God, he was his own tempter and made himself

proud and selfish. Thus evil, which had before remained hidden, was

revealed, and became sin. As the separation from God is an eternal act, so

also redemption and resurrection form an inner event. Christ is born in

everyone who gives up the I-ness (\_Ichheit\_); each
regenerate man is a son

of God. But no vicarious suffering can save him who does not put off the

old Adam, no matter how much an atheology sunk in literalism may comfort

itself with the hope that man can "drink at another's cost" (that the merit  $% \left( 1\right) =\left( 1\right) +\left( 1\right)$ 

of another is imputed to him).[1]

[Footnote 1: Weigel is discussed by J.O. Opel, Leipsic, 1864.]

German mysticism reaches its culmination in the Görlitz cobbler, Jacob

Böhme (1575-1624; \_Aurora, or the Rising Dawn\_; \_Mysterium Magnum, or

on the First Book of Moses\_, etc. The works of Böhme, collected by his

apostle, Gichtel, appeared in 1682 in ten volumes, and in 1730 in six

volumes; a new edition was prepared by Schiebler in 1831-47, with a second

edition in 1861 \_seq\_.). Böhme's doctrine[1] centers about the problem of

the origin of evil. He transfers this to God himself and

joins therewith

the leading thought of Eckhart, that God goes through a process, that he

proceeds from an unrevealed to a revealed condition. At the sight of a tin

vessel glistening in the sun, he conceived, as by inspiration, the idea

that as the sunlight reveals itself on the dark vessel so all light needs

darkness and all good evil in order to appear and to become knowable.

Everything becomes perceptible through its opposite alone: gentleness

through sternness, love through anger, affirmation through negation.

Without evil there would be no life, no movement, no distinctions, no

revelation; all would be unqualified, uniform nothingness. And as in nature

nothing exists in which good and evil do not reside, so in God, besides

power or the good, a contrary exists, without which he would remain unknown

to himself. The theogonic process is twofold: self-knowledge on the part of

God, and his revelation outward, as eternal nature, in seven moments.

[Footnote 1: Cf. Windelband's fine exposition, Geschichte der neueren

Philosophie\_, vol. i. §19. The following have written on Böhme: Fr. Baader

(in vols. iii. and xiii. of his \_Werke\_); Hamberger, Munich, 1844: H. A.

Fechner, Görlitz, 1857; A. v. Harless, Berlin, 1870, new edition, Leipsic, 1882.

At the beginning of the first development God is will without object,

eternal quietude and rest, unqualified groundlessness without determinate

volition. But in this divine nothingness there soon awakes the hunger after

the aught (somewhat, existence), the impulse to

apprehend and manifest

self, and as God looks into and forms an image of himself, he divides into

Father and Son. The Son is the eye with which the Father intuits himself,

and the procession of this vision from the groundless is the Holy Ghost.

Thus far God, who is one in three, is only understanding or wisdom, wherein

the images of all the possible are contained; to the intuition of self must

be added divisibility; it is only through the antithesis of the revealed

God and the unrevealed groundless that the former becomes an actual

trinity (in which the persons stand related as essence, power, and

activity), and the latter becomes desire or nature in God.

At the creation of the world seven equally eternal qualities,

source-spirits or nature-forms, are distinguished in the divine nature.

First comes desire as the contractile, tart quality or pain, from which

proceed hardness and heat; next comes mobility as the expansive, sweet

quality, as this shows itself in water. As the nature of the first was to

bind and the second was fluid, so they both are combined in the bitter

quality or the pain of anxiety, the principle of sensibility. (Contraction

and expansion are the conditions of perceptibility.) From these three forms

fright or lightning suddenly springs forth. This fourth quality is the

turning-point at which light flames up from darkness and the love of

God breaks forth from out his anger; as the first three, or four, forms

constitute the kingdom of wrath, so the latter three constitute the kingdom

of joy. The fifth quality is called light or the warm

fire of love, and has for its functions external animation and communication; the sixth, report and sound, is the principle of inner animation and intelligence; the seventh, the formative quality, corporeality, comprehends all the preceding in itself as their dwelling.

The dark fire of anger (the hard, sweet, and bitter qualities) and the light fire of love (light, report, and corporeality), separated by the lightning-fire, in which God's wrath is transformed into mercy, stand related as evil and good. The evil in God is not sin, but simply the inciting sting, the principle of movement; which, moreover, is restrained, overcome, transfigured by gentleness. Sin arises only when the creature refuses to take part in the advance from darkness to light, and obstinately remains in the fire of anger instead of forcing his way through to the fire of love. Thus that which was one in God is divided. Lucifer becomes enamored of the tart quality (the centrum naturae or the matrix) and will

not grow into the heart of God; and it is only after such lingering behind

that the kingdom of wrath become a real hell. Heaven and hell are not

future conditions, but are experienced here on earth; he who instead of

subduing animality becomes enamored of it, stands under the wrath of God;

whereas he who abjures self dwells in the joyous kingdom of mercy. He alone

truly believes who himself becomes Christ, who repeats in himself what

Christ suffered and attained.

The creation of the material world is a result of Lucifer's fall. Böhme's

description of it, based on the Mosaic account of creation, may be passed

without notice; similarly his view of cognition, familiar from the earlier

mystics, that all knowledge is derived from self-knowledge, that our

destination is to comprehend God from ourselves, and the world from God.

Man, whose body, spirit, and soul hold in them the earthly, the sidereal,

and the heavenly, is at once a microcosm and a "little God."

Under the intractable form of Böhme's speculations and amid their riotous

fancy, no one will fail to recognize their true-hearted sensibility and an

unusual depth and vigor of thought. They found acceptance in England and

France, and have been revived in later times in the systems of Baader and Schelling.

## %7. The Foundation of Modern Physics%.

In no field has the modern period so completely broken with tradition as

in physics. The correctness of the Copernican theory is proved by Kepler's

laws of planetary movement, and Galileo's telescopical observations; the

scientific theory of motion is created by Galileo's laws of projectiles,

falling bodies, and the pendulum; astronomy and mechanics form the entrance

to exact physics--Descartes ventures an attempt at a comprehensive

mechanical explanation of nature. And thus an entirely new movement is at

hand. Forerunners, it is true, had not been lacking. Roger Bacon (1214-94)

had already sought to obtain an empirical knowledge of nature based upon

mathematics; and the great painter Leonardo da Vinci

(1452-1519) had

discovered the principles of mechanics, though without gaining much

influence over the work of his contemporaries. It was reserved for the

triple star which has been mentioned to overthrow Scholasticism. The

conceptions with which the Scholastic-Aristotelian philosophy of nature

sought to get at phenomena--substantial forms, properties, qualitative

change--are thrown aside; their place is taken by matter, forces working

under law, rearrangement of parts. The inquiry into final causes is

rejected as an anthropomorphosis of natural events, and deduction from

efficient causes is alone accepted as scientific explanation. Size, shape,

number, motion, and law are the only and the sufficient principles of

explanation. For magnitudes alone are knowable; wherever it is impossible

to measure and count, to determine force mathematically, there rigorous,

exact science ceases. Nature a system of regularly moved particles of

mass; all that takes place mechanical movement, viz., the combination,

separation, dislocation, oscillation of bodies and corpuscles; mathematics

the organon of natural science! Into this circle of modern scientific

categories are articulated, further, Galileo's new conception of motion

and the conception of atoms, which, previously employed by physicists, as

Daniel Sennert (1619) and others, is now brought into general acceptance

by Gassendi, while the four elements are definitively discarded (Lasswitz,

\_Geschichte der Atomistik\_, 1890). Still another doctrine of Democritus

is now revived; an evident symptom of the quantification and mechanical

interpretation of natural phenomena being furnished by the doctrine of the

subjectivity of sense qualities, in which, although on varying grounds,

Kepler, Galileo, Descartes, Gassendi, and Hobbes
agree.[1] Descartes and

Hobbes will be discussed later. Here we may give a few notes on their

fellow laborers in the service of the mechanical science of nature.

[Footnote 1: Cf. chapter vi. in Natorp's work on Descartes'

Erkenntnisstheorie\_, Marburg, 1882, and the same author's Analekten zur

Geschichte der Philosophie\_, in the \_Philosophische Monatshefte , vol.

xviii. 1882, p. 572 seq .]

We begin with John Kepler[1] (1571-1630; chief work, The New Astronomy or

Celestial Physics, in Commentaries on the Motions of Mars\_, 1609). Kepler's

merit as an astronomer has long obscured his philosophical importance,

although his discovery of the laws of planetary motion was the outcome of

endeavors to secure an exact foundation for his theory of the world. The

latter is aesthetic in character, centers about the idea of a universal

world-harmony, and employs mathematics as an instrument of confirmation.

For the fact that this theory satisfies the mind, and, on the whole,

corresponds to our empirical impression of the order of nature, is not

enough in Kepler's view to guarantee its truth; by exact methods, by means

of induction and experiment, a detailed proof from empirical facts must be

found for the existence not only of a general harmony, but of definitely

fixed proportions. Herewith the philosophical application of mathematics

loses that obscure mystical character which had clung to it since the time

of Pythagoras, and had strongly manifested itself as late as in Nicolas of

Cusa. Mathematical relations constitute the deepest essence of the real and

the object of science. Where matter is, there is geometry; the latter is

older than the world and as eternal as the divine Spirit; magnitudes are

the source of things. True knowledge exists only where quanta are known;

the presupposition of the capacity for knowledge is the capacity to count;

the spirit cognizes sensuous relations by means of the pure, archetypal,

intellectual relations born in it, which, before the advent of

sense-impressions, have lain concealed behind the veil of possibility;

inclination and aversion between men, their delight in beauty, the pleasant

impression of a view, depend upon an unconscious and instinctive perception

of proportions. This quantitative view of the world, which, with a

consciousness of its novelty as well as of its scope, is opposed to the

qualitative view of Aristotle; [2] the opinion that the essence of the human

spirit, as well as of the divine, nay, the essence of all things, consists

in activity; that, consequently, the soul is always active, being conscious

of its own harmony at least in a confused way, even when not conscious of

external proportions; further, the doctrine that nature loves simplicity,

avoids the superfluous, and is accustomed to accomplish large results with

a few principles--these remind one of Leibnitz. At the same time, the law

of parsimony and the methodological conclusions concerning true hypotheses

and real causes (an hypothesis must not be an

artificially constructed set of fictions, forcibly adjusted to reality, but is to trace back phenomena to their real grounds), obedience to which enabled him to deduce a priori from causes the conclusions which Copernicus by fortunate conjecture had gathered inductively from effects--these made our thinker a forerunner of Newton. The physical method of explanation must not be corrupted either by theological conceptions (comets are entirely natural phenomena!) or by anthropomorphic views, which endow nature with spiritual powers. [Footnote 1: See Sigwart, Kleine Schriften , vol. i. p. 182 seq .; R. Eucken, Beiträge zur Geschichte der neueren Philosophie\_, p. 54 \_seq\_.] [Footnote 2: Aristotle erred when he considered qualitative distinctions ( idem and aliud ) ultimate. These are to be traced back to quantitative differences, and the \_aliud\_ or \_diversum is to be replaced by plus et minus. There is nothing absolutely light, but only relatively. Since all things are distinguished only by "more or less," the possibility of mediating members or proportions between them is given.] Intermediate between Bacon and Descartes, both in the order of time and in the order of fact, and a co-founder of modern philosophy, stands Galileo Galilei (1564-1641).[1] Galileo exhibits all the traits characteristic of modern thinking: the reference from words to things, from memory to perception and thought, from authority to selfascertained principles, from

chance opinion, arbitrary opinion, and the traditional

doctrines of the

schools, to "knowledge," that is, to one's own, well grounded, indisputable

insight, from the study of human affairs to the study of nature. Study

Aristotle, but do not become his slave; instead of yielding yourselves

captive to his views, use your own eyes; do not believe that the mind

remains unproductive unless it allies itself with the understanding of

another; copy nature, not copies merely! He equals Bacon in his high

estimation of sensuous experience in contrast to the often illusory

conclusions of the reason, and of the value of induction; but he does not

conceal from himself the fact that observation is merely the first step in

the process of cognition, leaving the chief rôle for the understanding.

This, supplementing the defect of experience--the impossibility of

observing all cases--by its \_a priori\_ concept of law and with its

inferences overstepping the bounds of experience, first makes induction

possible, brings the facts established into connection (their combination

under laws is thought, not experience), reduces them to their primary,

simple, unchangeable, and necessary causes by abstraction from contingent

circumstances, regulates perception, corrects senseillusions, \_i. e\_.,

the false judgments originating in experience, and decides concerning the

reality or fallaciousness of phenomena. Demonstration based on experience,

a close union of observation and thought, of fact and Idea (law)--these

are the requirements made by Galileo and brilliantly fulfilled in his

discoveries; this, the "inductive speculation," as Dühring terms it, which

derives laws of far-reaching importance from

inconspicuous facts; this,

as Galileo himself recognizes, the distinctive gift of the investigator.

Galileo anticipates Descartes in regard to the subjective character of

sense qualities and their reduction to quantitative distinctions,[2] while

he shares with him the belief in the typical character of mathematics and

the mechanical theory of the world. The truth of geometrical propositions

and demonstrations is as unconditionally certain for man as for God, only

that man learns them by a discursive process, whereas God's intuitive

understanding comprehends them with a glance and knows more of them than

man. The book of the universe is written in mathematical characters; motion

is the fundamental phenomenon in the world of matter; our knowledge reaches

as far as phenomena are measurable; the qualitative nature of force, back

of its quantitative determinations, remains unknown to us. When Galileo

maintains that the Copernican theory is philosophically true and not merely

astronomically useful, thus interpreting it as more than a hypothesis,

he is guided by the conviction that the simplest explanation is the most

probable one, that truth and beauty are one, as in general he concedes

a guiding though not a controlling influence in scientific work to the

aesthetic demand of the mind for order, harmony, and unity in nature, to

correspond to the wisdom of the Creator.

[Footnote 1: Cf. Natorp's essay on Galileo, in vol. xviii. of the Philosophische Monatshefte , 1882.]

[Footnote 1: This doctrine is developed by Galileo in the controversial

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treatise against Padre Grassi, The Scales (Il
Saggiatore , 1623, in the
Florence edition of his collected works, 1842 seq.,
vol. iv. pp.
149-369; cf. Natorp, Descartes' Erkenntnisstheorie,
1882, chap. vi.). In
substance, moreover, this doctrine is found, as Heussler
remarks, Baco,
p. 94, in Bacon himself, in Valerius Terminus (Works,
Spedding, vol. iii.
pp. 217-252.)]
One of the most noted and influential among the
contemporaries, countrymen,
and opponents of Descartes, was the priest and natural
scientist, Petrus
Gassendi,[1] from 1633 Provost of Digne, later for a
short period professor
of mathematics at Paris. His renewal of Epicureanism, to
which he was
impelled by temperament, by his reverence for Lucretius,
and by the
anti-Aristotelian tendency of his thinking, was of far
more importance for
modern thought than the attempts to revive the ancient
systems which have
been mentioned above (p. 29). Its superior influence
depends on the fact
that, in the conception of atoms, it offered exact
inquiry a most useful
point of attachment. The conflict between the
Gassendists and the
Cartesians, which at first was a bitter one, centered,
as far as physics
was concerned, around the value of the atomic hypothesis
as contrasted with
the corpuscular and vortex theory which Descartes had
opposed to it. It
soon became apparent, however, that these two thinkers
followed along
essentially the same lines in the philosophy of nature,
sharply as they
were opposed in their noëtical principles. Descartes'
doctrine of body is
conceived from an entirely materialistic standpoint, his
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anthropology,

indeed, going further than the principles of his system would allow.

Gassendi, on the other hand, recognizes an immaterial, immortal reason,

traces the origin of the world, its marvelous arrangement, and the

beginning of motion back to God, and, since the Bible so teaches, believes

the earth to be at rest, --holding that, for this reason, the decision must

be given in favor of Tycho Brahé and against Copernicus, although the

hypothesis of the latter affords the simpler and, scientifically, the more

probable explanation. Both thinkers rejoice in their agreement with the

dogmas of the Church, only that with Descartes it came unsought in the

natural progress of his thought, while Gassendi held to it in contradiction

to his system. It is the more surprising that Gassendi's works escaped

being put upon the Index, a fate which overtook those of Descartes in 1663.

[Footnote 2: Pierre Gassendi, 1592-1655: \_On the Life and Character of

Epicurus\_, 1647; \_Notes on the Tenth Book of Diogenes Laërtius, with a

Survey of the Doctrine of Epicurus\_, 1649. \_Works\_, Lyons, 1658, Florence,

1727. Cf. Lange, \_History of Materialism\_, book i. § 3, chap, 1; Natorp,

\_Analekten, Philosophische Monatshefte\_, vol. xviii. 1882, p. 572 \_seq\_.]

As modern thought derives its mechanical temper equally from both these

sources, and the natural science of the day has appropriated the corpuscles

of Descartes under the name of molecules, as well as the atoms of Gassendi,

though not without considerable modification in both conceptions (Lange,

vol. i. p. 269), so we find attempts at mediation at an early period.

While Père Mersenne (1588-1648), who was well versed in physics, sought

an indecisive middle course between these two philosophers, the English

chemist, Robert Boyle, effected a successful synthesis of both. The son

of Richard Boyle, Earl of Cork, he was born at Lismore in 1626, lived in

literary retirement at Oxford from 1654, and later in Cambridge, and died,

1692, in London, president of the Royal Society. His principal work, \_The

Sceptical Chemist (Works\_, vol. i. p. 290 \_seq\_.), appeared in 1661, the

tract, \_De Ipsa Natura\_, in 1682.[1] By his introduction of the atomic

conception he founded an epoch in chemistry, which, now for the first, was

freed from bondage to the ideas of Aristotle and the alchemists.

Atomism, however, was for Boyle merely an instrument of method and not a

philosophical theory of the world. A sincerely religious man,[2] he regards

with disfavor both the atheism of Epicurus and his complete rejection of

teleology--the world-machine points to an intelligent Creator and a purpose

in creation; motion, to a divine impulse. He defends, on the other hand,

the right of free inquiry against the priesthood and the pedantry of the

schools, holding that the supernatural must be sharply distinguished from

the natural, and mere conjectures concerning insoluble problems from

positions susceptible of experimental proof; while, in opposition to

submission to authority, he remarks that the current coin of opinion must

be estimated, not by the date when and the person by whom it was minted but

by the value of the metal alone. Cartesian elements in

Boyle are the start from doubt, the derivation of all motion from pressure and impact, and the extension of the mechanical explanation to the organic world. His inquiries relate exclusively to the world of matter so far as it was "completed on the last day but one of creation." He defends empty space against Descartes and Hobbes. He is the first to apply the mediaeval terms, primary and secondary qualities, to the antithesis between objective properties which really belong to things, and sensuous or subjective qualities present only in the feeling subject.[3] [Footnote 1: Boyle's Works were published in Latin at Geneva, in 1660, in six volumes, and in 1714 in five; an edition by Birch appeared at London, 1744, in five volumes, second edition, 1772, in six. Cf. Buckle, History of Civilization in England , vol. i. chap. vii. pp. 265-268; Lange, History of Materialism , vol. i. pp. 298-306; vol. ii. p. 351 \_seq\_.; Georg Baku, Der Streit über den Naturbegriff, Zeitschrift für Philosophie , vol. xcviii., 1891, p. 162 seq .] [Footnote 2: The foundation named after him had for its object to promote by means of lectures the investigation of nature on the basis of atomism, and, at the same time, to free it from the reproach of leading to atheism and to show its harmony with natural religion. Samuel Clarke's work on The Being and Attributes of God , 1705, originated in

[Footnote 3: Eucken, \_Geschichte der philosophischen Terminologie\_,

lectures delivered on

this foundation.

- %8. Philosophy in England to the Middle of the Seventeenth Century.%
- %(a) Bacon's Predecessors.%--The darkness which lay over the beginnings
- of modern English philosophy has been but incompletely dispelled by
- the meritorious work of Ch. de Rémusat \_(Histoire de la Philosophie en
- Angleterre depuis Bacon jusqu'a Locke\_, 2 vols., 1878). The most recent
- investigations of J. Freudenthal \_(Beiträge zur Geschichte der Englischen
- Philosophie\_, in the \_Archiv für Geschichte der Philosophie , vols. iv. and
- v., 1891) have brought assistance in a way deserving of thanks, since they
- lift at important points the veil which concealed Bacon's relations to his
- predecessors and contemporaries, by describing the scientific tendencies
- and achievements of Digby and Temple. The following may be taken from his results.
- Everard Digby (died 1592; chief work, \_Theoria Analytica,\_ 1579),
- instructor in logic in Cambridge from 1573, who was strongly influenced
- by Reuchlin and who favored an Aristotelian-Alexandrian-Cabalistic
- eclecticism, was the first to disseminate Neoplatonic ideas in England;
- and, in spite of the lack of originality in his systematic presentation of
- theoretical philosophy, aroused the study of this branch in England into
- new life. His opponent, Sir William Temple [1] (1553-1626), by his defense
- and exposition of the doctrine of Ramus (introduced into Great Britain by
- George Buchanan and his pupil, Andrew Melville), made

Cambridge the chief center of Ramism. He was the first who openly opposed Aristotle.

[Footnote 1: Temple was secretary to Philip Sidney, William Davison, and

the Earl of Essex, and, from 1619, Provost of Trinity College, Dublin.

His maiden work, \_De Unica P. Rami Methodo\_, which he published under the

pseudonym, Mildapettus 1580, was aimed at Digby's \_De Duplici Methodo . His

chief work, \_P. Rami Dialectics Libri Dua Scholiis, Illustrati\_, appeared in 1584.]

Bacon was undoubtedly acquainted with both these writers and took ideas

from both. Digby represented the scholastic tendency, which Bacon

vehemently opposed, yet without being able completely to break away

from it. Temple was one of those who supplied him with weapons for this

conflict. Finally, it must be mentioned that many of the English scientists

of the time, especially William Gilbert (1540-1603; \_De Magnete , 1600),

physician to Queen Elizabeth, used induction in their work before Bacon advanced his theory of method.

%(b) Bacon%.--The founder of the empirical philosophy of modern times was

Francis Bacon (1561-1626), a contemporary of Shakespeare. Bacon began

his political career by sitting in Parliament for many years under Queen

Elizabeth, as whose counsel he was charged with the duty of engaging in

the prosecution of his patron, the Earl of Essex, and at whose command he

prepared a justification of the process. Under James I, he attained the

highest offices and honors, being made Keeper of the

Great Seal in 1617,

Lord Chancellor and Baron Verulam in 1618, and Viscount St. Albans in

1621. In this last year came his fall. He was charged with bribery, and

condemned; the king remitted the imprisonment and fine, and for the

remainder of his life Bacon devoted himself to science, rejecting every

suggestion toward a renewal of his political activity. The moral laxity

of the times throws a mitigating light over his fault; but he cannot be

aquitted of self-seeking, love of money and of display, and excessive

ambition. As Macaulay says in his famous essay, he was neither malignant

nor tyrannical, but he lacked warmth of affection and elevation of

sentiment; there were many things which he loved more than virtue, and many

which he feared more than guilt. He first gained renown as an author by his

ethical, economic, and political \_Essays\_, after the manner of Montaigne;

of these the first ten appeared in 1597, in the third edition (1625)

increased to fifty-eight; the Latin translation bears the title \_Sermones

Fideles\_. His great plan for a "restoration of the sciences" was intended

to be carried out in four, or rather, in six parts. But only the first two

parts of the \_Instauratio Magna\_ were developed: the \_encyclopaedia\_, or

division of all sciences[1], a chart of the \_globus intellectualis\_, on

which was depicted what each science had accomplished and what still

remained for each to do; and the development of the  $\_$ new method . Bacon

published his survey of the circle of the sciences in the English work, the

\_Advancement of Learning\_, 1605, a much enlarged revision of which, De

Dignitate et Augmentis Scientiarum\_, appeared in Latin in 1623. In 1612

he printed as a contribution to methodology the draft, \_Cogitata et Visa\_

(written 1607), later recast into the [first book of the] Novum Organum,

1620. This title, \_Novum Organum\_, of itself indicates opposition to

Aristotle, whose logical treatises had for ages been collected under the

title \_Organon\_. If in this work Bacon had given no connected exposition

of his reforming principles, but merely a series of aphorisms, and this

an incomplete one, the remaining parts are still more fragmentary, only

prefaces and scattered contributions having been reduced to writing. The

third part was to have been formed by a description of the world or natural

\_history, Historia Naturalis\_, and the last,--introduced by a Scala

Intellectus\_ (ladder of knowledge, illustrations of the
method

by examples), and by \_Prodromi\_ (preliminary results of his own

inquiries), -- by natural \_science, Philosophia Secunda\_. The best edition of

Bacon's works is the London one of Spedding, Ellis & Heath, 1857 \_seq\_., 7

vols., 2d ed., 1870; with 7 volumes additional of \_The Letters and Life of

Francis Bacon, including His Occasional Works\_, and a Commentary, by J.

Spedding, 1862-74. Spedding followed this further with a briefer Account

of the Life and Times of Francis Bacon\_, 2 vols., 1878[2].

[Footnote 1: According to the faculties of the soul, memory, imagination,

and understanding, three principal sciences are distinguished; history,

poesy, and philosophy. Of the three objects of the latter, "nature strikes

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the mind with a direct ray, God with a refracted ray,
and man himself
with a reflected ray." Theology is natural or revealed.
Speculative
(theoretical) natural philosophy divides into physics,
concerned with
material and efficient causes, and metaphysics, whose
mission, according to
the traditional view, is to inquire into final causes,
but in Bacon's own
opinion, into formal causes; operative (technical)
natural philosophy
is mechanics and natural magic. The doctrine concerning
man comprises
anthropology (including logic and ethics) and politics.
This division of
Bacon was still retained by D'Alembert in his
preliminary discourse to the
Encyclopédie .]
[Footnote 2: Cf. on Bacon, K. Fischer, 2d ed., 1875;
Chr. Sigwart, in the
Preussische Jahrbücher , 1863 and 1864, and in vol. ii.
of his Logik;
H. Heussler, Baco und seine geschichtliche Stellung,
Breslau, 1889.
[Adamson, Encyclopedia Britannica, 9th. ed., vol. iii.
pp. 200-222;
Fowler, English Philosophers Series, 1881; Nichol,
Blackwood's
Philosophical Classics, 2 vols., 1888-89.--TR.]] Bacon's
merit was
threefold: he felt more forcibly and more clearly than
previous
thinkers the need of a reform in science; he set up a
new and grand
ideal -- unbiased and methodical investigation of nature
in order to
mastery over nature; and he gave information and
directions as to
the way in which this goal was to be attained, which, in
spite of their
incompleteness in detail, went deep into the heart of
the subject and laid
the foundation for the work of centuries.[1] His faith
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in the omnipotence

of the new method was so strong, that he thought that science for the

future could almost dispense with talent. He compares his method to a

compass or a ruler, with which the unpractised man is able to draw circles

and straight lines better than an expert without these instruments.

[Footnote 1: His detractors are unjust when they apply the criterion of the present method of investigation and find only imperfection in an imperfect beginning.]

All science hitherto, Bacon declares, has been uncertain and unfruitful,

and does not advance a step, while the mechanic arts grow daily more

perfect; without a firm basis, garrulous, contentious, and lacking in

content, it is of no practical value. The seeker after certain knowledge

must abandon words for things, and learn the art of forcing nature to

answer his questions. The seeker after fruitful knowledge must increase

the number of discoveries, and transform them from matters of chance into

matters of design. For discovery conditions the power, greatness, and

progress of mankind. Man's power is measured by his knowledge, knowledge is

power, and nature is conquered by obedience--\_scientia
est potentia; natura
parendo vincitur\_.

Bacon declares three things indispensable for the attainment of this

power-giving knowledge: the mind must understand the instruments of

knowledge; it must turn to experience, deriving the materials of knowledge

from perception; and it must not rise from particular

principles to the

higher axioms too rapidly, but steadily and gradually through middle

axioms. The mind can accomplish nothing when left to itself; but undirected

experience alone is also insufficient (experimentation without a plan is

groping in the dark), and the senses, moreover, are deceptive and not acute

enough for the subtlety of nature--therefore, methodical experimentation

alone, not chance observation, is worthy of confidence. Instead of the

customary divorce of experience and understanding, a firm alliance, a

"lawful marriage," must be effected between them. The empiricists merely

collect, like the ants; the dogmatic metaphysicians spin the web of their

ideas out of themselves, like the spiders; but the true philosopher must be

like the bee, which by its own power transforms and digests the gathered material.

As the mind, like a dull and uneven mirror, by its own nature distorts the

rays of objects, it must first of all be cleaned and polished, that is, it

must be freed from all prejudices and false notions, which, deep-rooted by

habit, prevent the formation of a true picture of the world. It must root

out its prejudices, or, where this is impossible, at least understand them.

Doubt is the first step on the way to truth. Of these Phantoms or Idols to

be discarded, Bacon distinguishes four classes: Idols of the Theater, of

the Market Place, of the Den, and of the Tribe. The most dangerous are

the \_idola theatri\_, which consist in the tendency to put more trust in

authority and tradition than in independent reflection, to adopt current

ideas simply because they find general acceptance. Bacon's injunction

concerning these is not to be deceived by stage-plays (\_i.e.\_, by the

teachings of earlier thinkers which represent things other than they are);

instead of believing others, observe for thyself! The
 idola fori , which

arise from the use of language in public intercourse, depend upon the

confusion of words, which are mere symbols with a conventional value and

which are based on the carelessly constructed concepts of the vulgar, with

things themselves. Here Bacon warns us to keep close to things. The \_idola

specus\_ are individual prepossessions which interfere with the apprehension

of the true state of affairs, such as the excessive tendency of thought

toward the resemblances or the differences of things, or the investigator's

habit of transferring ideas current in his own department to subjects of a

different kind. Such individual weaknesses are numberless, yet they may in

part be corrected by comparison with the perceptions of others. The \_idola

tribus\_, finally, are grounded in the nature of the human species. To this

class belong, among others, illusions of the senses, which may in part be

corrected by the use of instruments, with which we arm our organs; further,

the tendency to hold fast to opinions acceptable to us in spite of contrary

instances; similarly, the tendency to anthropomorphic views, including,

as its most important special instance, the mistake of thinking that we

perceive purposive relations everywhere and the working of final causes,

after the analogy of human action, when in reality efficient causes alone

are concerned. Here Bacon's injunction runs, not to

interpret natural phenomena teleologically, but to explain them from mechanical causes; not to narrow the world down to the limits of the mind, but to extend the mind to the boundaries of the world, so that it shall understand it as it really is.

To these warnings there are added positive rules. When the investigator,

after the removal of prejudices and habitual modes of thought, approaches

experience with his senses unperverted and a purified mind, he is to

advance from the phenomena given to their conditions. First of all, the

facts must be established by observation and experiment, and systematically

arranged,[1] then let him go on to causes and laws.[2] The true or

scientific induction[3] thus inculcated is quite
different from the

credulous induction of common life or the unmethodical induction of

Aristotle. Bacon emphasizes the fact that hitherto the importance of

negative instances, which are to be employed as a kind of counter-proof,

has been completely overlooked, and that a substitute for complete

induction, which is never attainable, may be found, on the one hand, in the

collection of as many cases as possible, and, on the other, by considering

the more important or decisive cases, the "prerogative instances." Then the

inductive ascent from experiment to axiom is to be followed by a deductive

descent from axioms to new experiments and discoveries. Bacon rejects

the syllogism on the ground that it fits one to overcome his opponent in

disputation, but not to gain an active conquest over nature. In his own

application of these principles of method, his procedure was that of a

dilettante; the patient, assiduous labor demanded for the successful

promotion of the mission of natural investigation was not his forte. His

strength lay in the postulation of problems, the stimulation and direction

of inquiry, the discovery of lacunae and the throwing out of suggestions;

and many ideas incidentally thrown off by him surprise us by their

ingenious anticipations of later discoveries. The greatest defect in his

theory was his complete failure to recognize the services promised by

mathematics to natural science. The charge of utilitarianism, which has

been so broadly made, is, on the contrary, unjust. For no matter how

strongly he emphasizes the practical value of knowledge, he is still in

agreement with those who esteem the godlike condition of calm and cheerful

acquaintance with truth more highly than the advantages to be expected from

it; he desires science to be used, not as "a courtezan for pleasure," but

"as a spouse for generation, fruit and comfort," and-leaving entirely out

of view his isolated acknowledgments of the inherent value of knowledge--he

conceives its utility wholly in the comprehensive and noble sense that the

pursuit of science, from which as such all narrow-minded regard for direct

practical application must keep aloof, is the most important lever for the advancement of human culture.

[Footnote 1: Bacon illustrates the method by the explanation of heat. The

results of experimental observation are to be arranged in three tables. The

table of presence contains many different cases in which

heat occurs; the

table of absence, those in which, under circumstances otherwise the same,

it is wanting; the table of degrees or comparison enumerates phenomena

whose increase and decrease accompany similar variations in the degree of

heat. That which remains after the \_exclusion\_ now to be undertaken (of

that which cannot be the nature or cause of heat), yields as a preliminary

result or commencement of interpretation (as a "first vintage"), the

definition of heat: "a motion, expansive, restrained, and acting in its

strife upon the smaller particles of bodies."]

[Footnote 2: This goal of Baconian inquiry is by no means coincident with

that of exact natural science. Law does not mean to him, as to the physical

scientist of to-day, a mathematically formulated statement of the course of

events, but the nature of the phenomenon, to be expressed in a definition

(E. König, \_Entwickelung des Causalproblems bis Kant\_, 1883, pp. 154-156).

Bacon combines in a peculiar manner ancient and modern, Platonic and

corpuscular fundamental ideas. Rejecting final causes with the atomists,

yet handing over material and efficient causes (the latter of which sink

with him to the level of mere changing occasional causes) to empirical

physics, he assigns to metaphysics, as the true science of nature, the

search for the "forms" and properties of things. In this he is guided by

the following metaphysical presupposition: Phenomena, however manifold

they may be, are at bottom composed of a few elements, namely, permanent

properties, the so-called "simple natures," which form, as it were, the

alphabet of nature or the colors on her palette, by the combination of

which she produces her varied pictures; \_e. g\_., the nature of heat and

cold, of a red color, of gravity, and also of age, of death. Now the

question to be investigated becomes, What, then, is heat, redness, etc.?

The ground essence and law of the natures consist in certain forms,

which Bacon conceives in a Platonic way as concepts and substances, but

phenomenal ones, and, at the same time, with Democritus, as the grouping or

motion of minute material particles. Thus the form of heat is a particular

kind of motion, the form of whiteness a determinate arrangement of material

particles. Cf. Natge, \_Ueber F. Bacons Formenlehre\_, Leipsic, 1891, in

which Heussler's view is developed in more detail. [Cf. further, Fowler's

\_Bacon\_, English Philosophers Series, 1881, chap. iv.--TR.]]

[Footnote 3: The Baconian method is to be called induction, it is true,

only in the broad sense. Even before Sigwart, Apelt, Theorie der

Induction\_, 1854, pp. 151, 153, declared that the question it discussed was

essentially a method of abstraction. This, however, does not detract from

the fame of Bacon as the founder, of the theory of inductive investigation

(in later times carefully elaborated by Mill).]

Bacon intended that his reforming principles should accrue to the benefit

of practical philosophy also, but gave only aphoristic hints to this

end. Everything is impelled by two appetites, of which the one aims at

individual welfare, the other at the welfare of the whole of which the

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thing is a part (_bonum suitatis_--_bonum communionis_). The second is not
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only the nobler but also the stronger; this holds of the lower creatures as

well as of man, who, when not degenerate, prefers the general welfare to

his individual interests. Love is the highest of the virtues, and is never,

as other human endowments, exposed to the danger of excess; therefore the

life of action is of more worth than the life of contemplation. By this

principle of morals Bacon marked out the way for the English ethics of

later times.[1] He notes the lack of a science of character, for which more

material is given in ordinary discourse, in the poets and the historians,

than in the works of the philosophers; he explains the power of the

affections over the reason by the fact that the idea of present good fills

the imagination more forcibly than the idea of good to  $\operatorname{come}$ , and  $\operatorname{summons}$ 

persuasion, habit, and morals to the aid of the latter. We must endeavor

so to govern the passions (each of which combines in itself a masculine

impetuosity with a feminine weakness) that they shall take the part of

the reason instead of attacking it. Elsewhere Bacon gives (not entirely

unquestionable) directions concerning the art of making one's way. Acute

observations and ingenious remarks everywhere abound. In order to inform

one's self of a man's intentions and ends, it is necessary to "keep a good

mediocrity in liberty of speech, which invites a similar liberty, and in

secrecy, which induces trust." "In order to get on one must have a little

of the fool and not too much of the honest." "As the baggage is to an

army, so is riches to virtue. It cannot be spared nor

left behind, but it

hindereth the march; yea, and the care of it sometimes loseth or disturbeth

the victory" (impedimenta--baggage and hindrance). On envy and malevolence

he says: "For men's minds will either feed upon their own good or upon

others' evil; ... and whoso is out of hope to attain another's virtue will

seek to come at even hand by depressing another's fortune."

# [Footnote 1: Cf. Vorlaender, p. 267 seq .]

In ethics, as in theoretical philosophy, Bacon demands the completion of

natural knowledge by revelation. The light of nature (the reason and the

conscience) is able only to convince us of sin and not to give us complete

information concerning our duty,--\_e.g.\_, the lofty moral principle, Love

your enemies. Similarly, natural theology is quite sufficient to place

the existence of God beyond doubt, by reasoning from the order in nature

("slight tastes of philosophy may perchance move one to atheism but fuller

draughts lead back to religion"); but the doctrines of Christianity are

matters of faith. Religion and science are separate fields, any confusion

of which involves the danger of an heretical religion or a fabulous

philosophy. The more a principle of faith contradicts the reason, the

greater the obedience and the honor to God in accepting it.

%(c) Hobbes%.--Hobbes stands in sharp contrast to Bacon both in disposition

and in doctrine. Bacon was a man of a wide outlook, a rich, stimulating,

impulsive nature, filled with great plans, but too mobile and desultory to

allow them to ripen to perfection; Hobbes is slow, tenacious, persistent,

unyielding, his thought strenuous and narrow. To this corresponds a

profound difference in their systems, which is by no means adequately

characterized by saying that Hobbes brings into the foreground the

mathematical element neglected by his predecessor, and turns his attention

chiefly to politics. The dependence of Hobbes on Bacon is, in spite of

their personal acquaintance, not so great as formerly was universally

assumed. His guiding stars are rather the great mathematicians of the

Continent, Kepler and Galileo, while Cartesian influences also are not

to be denied. He finds his mission in the construction of a strictly

mechanical view of the world. Mechanism applied to the world gives

materialism; applied to knowledge, sensationalism of a
mathematical type;

applied to the will, determinism; to morality and the state, ethical and

political naturalism. Nevertheless, the empirical tendency of his nation

has a certain power over him; he holds fast to the position that all ideas

ultimately spring from experience. With his energetic but short-breathed

thinking, he did not succeed in fusing the rationalistic elements received

from foreign sources with these native tendencies, so as to produce

a unified system. As Grimm has correctly shown (\_Zur Geschichte des

Erkenntnissproblems\_), there is an unreconciled contradiction between the

dependence of thought on experience, which he does not give up, and the

universal validity of the truths derived from pure reason, which he asserts

on the basis of the mathematico-philosophical doctrines

of the Continent. A similar unmediated dualism will meet us in Locke also.

Thomas Hobbes (1588-1679) was repelled while a student at Oxford by

Scholastic methods in thought, with which he agreed only in their

nominalistic results (there are no universals except names). During

repeated sojourns in Paris, where he made the acquaintance of Gassendi,

Mersenne, and Descartes, he devoted himself to the study of mathematics,

and was greatly influenced by the doctrines of Galileo; while the disorders

of the English revolution led him to embrace an absolutist theory of the

state. His chief works were his politics, under the title Leviathan,

1651, and his \_Elementa Philosophiae\_, in three parts ( De Corpore, De

Homine, De Cive\_), of which the third, \_De Cive\_, appeared first (in Latin;

in briefer form and anonymously, 1642, enlarged 1647), the first, De

Corpore\_, in 1655, and the second, \_De Homine\_, in 1658. These had

been preceded by two books [1] written, like the two last parts of the

\_Elements\_, in English: \_On Human Nature\_ and \_De Corpore Politico\_,

composed 1640, printed without the author's consent in 1650. Besides these

he wrote two treatises \_Of Liberty and Necessity\_, 1646 and 1654,

and prepared, 1668, a collected edition of his works (in Latin). In

Molesworth's edition, 1839-45, the Latin works occupy five volumes and the English eleven.[2]

[Footnote 1: Or rather one; the treatise \_On Human Nature\_ consists of the first thirteen chapters of the work, \_Elements of Law, Natural and

Politic\_, and the \_De Corpore Politico\_ of the remainder.

[Footnote 2: Cf. on Hobbes, G.C. Robertson (Blackwood's Philosophical

Classics, vol. x.), 1886; Tönnies in the Vierteljahrsschrift für

wissenschaftliche Philosophie, Jahrg. 3-5, 1879-81.]

Philosophy is formally defined by Hobbes as knowledge of effects from

causes and causes from effects by means of legitimate rational inference.

This implies the equal validity of the deductive and inductive

methods, --while Bacon had proclaimed the latter the most important

instrument of knowledge, -- as well as the exclusion of theology based on

revelation from the domain of science. Philosophy is objectively defined as

the theory of body and motion: \_all that exists is body; all that occurs,

motion\_. Everything real is corporeal; this holds of points, lines, and

surfaces, which as the limits of body cannot be incorporeal, as well as

of the mind and of God. The mind is merely a (for the senses too) refined

body, or, as it is stated in another place, a movement in certain parts

of the organic body. All events, even internal events, the feelings and

passions, are movements of material parts. "Endeavor" is a diminutive

motion, as the atom is the smallest of bodies; sensation and representation

are changes in the perceiving body. Space is the idea of an existing thing

as such, \_i. e\_., merely as existing outside the perceiving subject; time,

the idea of motion. All phenomena are corporeal motions, which take place

with mechanical necessity. Neither formal nor final causes exist, but only

efficient causes. All that happens takes its origin in the activity of an

external cause, and not in itself; a body at rest (or in motion) remains

at rest (or in motion) forever, unless affected by another in a contrary

sense. And as bodies and their changes constitute the only objects of

philosophy, so the mathematical method is the only correct method.

There are two kinds of bodies: natural bodies, which man finds in nature,

and artificial bodies, which he himself produces. By the latter Hobbes

refers especially to the state as a human artefact. Man stands between the

two as the most perfect natural body and an element in the political body.

Philosophy, therefore, besides the introductory philosophia prima, which

discusses the underlying concepts, consists of three parts: physics,

anthropology, and politics. Even the theory of the state is capable of

demonstrative treatment; moral phenomena are as subject to the law of

mechanical causation as physical phenomena.

The first factor in the cognitive process is an impression on a

sense-organ, which, occasioned by external motion, continues onward to the

heart and from this center gives rise to a reaction. The perception or

sensation which thus arises is entirely subjective, a function of the

knower merely, and in no way a copy of the external movement. The

properties light, color, and sound, which we believe to be without us, are

merely internal phenomena dependent on outer and inner motions, but with no

resemblance to them. Memory consists in the lingering effects or residuary

traces of perception; it is a sense or consciousness of having felt before

<code>\_(sentire se sensisse meminisse est\_),</code> and ideas are distinguished from

sensations as the perfect from the present tense.

Experience is the

totality of perceptions retained in memory, together with a certain

foresight of the future after the analogy of the past. These stages of

cognition, which can yield prudence but not necessary and universal

knowledge, are present in animals as well as men. The human capacity for

science is dependent on the faculty of speech; words are conventional

signs to facilitate the retention and communication of ideas. As the

memory-images denoted by words are weaker, fainter, and less clearly

discriminated than the original sensations, it comes to pass that a number

of similar ideas of memory receive a common name. Thus abstract general

ideas and generic concepts arise, to which nothing real corresponds, for

in reality particulars alone exist. The universal is a human artefact. The

combination of words into propositions, being an addition or subtraction

of arbitrary symbols or marks, is called judgment; the combination of

propositions into syllogisms, inference; the united body of true or

demonstrated principles, science--hence mathematics is the type of all

knowledge. In short, thought is nothing but calculation and the words with

which we operate are mere counters; he who takes counters for coin is a

fool. Animals lack reason, \_i.e.\_, this power of combining artificial symbols.

Hobbes's theory of the will is characterized by the

same! sensationalism

and mechanism as his theory of knowledge. All spiritual events originate

in impressions of sense. Man responds \_to the action of objects by a double

reaction, adding to the theoretical reaction of sensation a practical one

in the feeling of pleasure or pain (according as the impression furthers or

hinders the vital function), whence desire and aversion follow in respect

to future experience. Further developments from the feelings experienced at

the signs of honor (the acknowledgment of superior power) and the contrary,

are the affections of pride, courage, anger, of shame and repentance, of

hope and love, of pity, etc. Deliberation is the alternation of different

appetites; the final, victorious one which immediately precedes action is

called will. Freedom cannot be predicated of the will, but only of the

action, and even in this case it means simply the absence of external

restraints, the procedure of the action from the will of the agent; while

the action is necessary nevertheless. Every motion is the inevitable result

of the sum of the preceding (including cerebral) motions.

Things which we desire are termed good, and those which we shun, evil.

Nothing is good \_per se\_ or absolutely, but only relatively, for a given

person, place, time, or set of circumstances. Different things are good to

different men, and there is no objective, universal rule of good and

evil, so long as men are considered as individuals, apart from society. A

definite criterion of the good is first reached in the state: that is right

which the law permits, that wrong which it forbids; good

means that which

is conducive to the general welfare. In the state of nature nothing is

forbidden; nature gives every man a right to everything, and right is

coextensive with might. What, then, induces man to abandon the state of

nature and enter the state of citizenship? The opinion of Aristotle and

Grotius that the state originates in the social impulse is false; for man

is essentially not social, but selfish, and nothing but regard for his own

interests bids him seek the protection of the state; the civil commonwealth

is an artificial product of fear and prudence. The highest good is

self-preservation; all other goods, as friendship, riches, wisdom,

knowledge, and, above all, power, are valuable only as instruments of the

former. The precondition of well-being, for which each man strives by

nature, is security for life and health. This is wanting in the state of

nature, in which the passions govern; for the state of nature is a state

of war of everyone against everyone \_(bellum omnium contra omnes\_). Each

man strives for success and power, and, since he cannot trust his fellow,

seeks to subdue, nay, to kill him; each looks upon his fellow as a wolf

which he prefers to devour rather than submit himself to the like

operation. Now, as no one is so weak as to be incapable of inflicting on

his fellows that worst of evils, death, and thus the strongest is unsafe,

reason, in the interest of everyone, enjoins a search after peace and the

establishment of an ordered community. The conditions of peace are the

"laws of nature," which relate both to politics and to morals but which do

not attain their full binding authority until they become positive laws,

injunctions of the sovereign power. Peace is attainable only when each man,

in return for the protection vouchsafed to him, gives up his natural right

to all. The compact by which each renounces his natural liberty to do what

he pleases, provided all others are ready for the same renunciation, -- to

which are added, further, the laws of justice (sanctity of covenants),

equity, gratitude, modesty, sociability, mercifulness, etc., whose

opposites would bring back the state of nature, -- this compact is secured

against violation by the transfer of the general power and freedom to a

single will (the will of an assembly or of an individual person), which

then represents the general will. The civil contract includes, then, two

moments: first, renunciation; second, irrevocable transference and

(absolute) submission. The second unites the multitude into a civil

personality, the most perfect unity being vouchsafed by absolute monarchy.

The sovereign is the soul of the political body; the officials, its limbs;

reward and punishment, its nerves; law and equity, its reason.

The social contract theory has often experienced democratic interpretation

and application, both before and since Hobbes's time; and, in fact, it does

not include \_per se\_ the irrevocability of the transfer,
the absoluteness

of the sovereign power, and the monarchical head, which Hobbes considered

indispensable in order to guard against the danger of anarchy. In every

abridgment of the supreme power, whether by division or limitation, he sees

a step toward the renewal of the state of nature; and he defends with iron

rigor the omnipotence of the state and the complete lack of legal status on

the part of all individuals in contrast with it. The citizen is not to obey

his own conscience, which has simply the value of a private opinion,

but the laws, as the public conscience; while the supreme ruler, on the

contrary, is superior to the civil laws, for it is he that decrees,

interprets, alters, and abrogates them. He is lord over the property, the

life, and the death of the citizens, and can do no one wrong. For he

alone has retained his original natural right to all, which the rest have

entirely and forever renounced. He must have regard, indeed, to the welfare

of the people, but he is accountable to God alone. The obligation of the

subject to obey is extinguished in one case only, -- when the civil power is

incapable of providing him further with external and internal protection.

For the rest, Hobbes declares the existing public order the lawful one, the

evils of arbitrary rule much more tolerable than the universal hostility of

the state of nature, and aversion to tyrants a disease inherited from the republicans of antiquity.

The sovereign, by the laws and by instruction, determines what is good and

evil; he determines also what is to be believed. Religion unsanctioned by

the state is superstition. The temporal ruler is also the spiritual ruler,

the king, the chief pastor, and the clergy his servants. One and the same

community is termed state in so far as it consists of men, and church in so

far as it consists of Christian men (the ecclesiastical

commonwealth). The

dogmas which the law prescribes are to be received without investigation,

to be swallowed like pills, without mastication.

The principle that every passion and every action is in its nature

indifferent, that right and wrong exist only in the state, that the will

of a despot is to determine what is moral and what immoral, has given just

offense. Moreover, this was not, in fact, Hobbes's deepest conviction. Even

without ascribing great importance to isolated
statements,[1] it must

be admitted that his doctrine was interpreted more narrowly than it was

intended. He does not say that no moral distinctions whatever exist before

the foundation of the state, but only that the state first supplies a fixed

criterion of the good. Moral ideas have a certain currency before this, but

they lack power to enforce themselves. Further, when he ascribes the origin

of the state to self-interest, this does not mean that reason, conscience,

generosity, and love for our fellows are entirely wanting in the state of

nature, but only that they are not general enough, and, as against the

passions, not strong enough to furnish a foundation for the edifice of the

state. Not only exaggeration in statement but also uncouthness of thought

may be forgiven the representative of a movement which is at once new and

strengthened by the consciousness of agreement with a naturalistic theory

of knowledge and physics; and the vigor of execution compels admiration,

even though many obscurities remain to be deplored  $_{(e. g., the relation)}$ 

of the two moral standards, the standard of the reason or natural law and

the standard of positive law). And recognition must be accorded to the

significant kernel of doctrine formed, on the one hand, by the endeavor to

separate ethics from theology, and on the other, by the thoughts--which, it

is true, were not perfectly brought out--that the moral is not founded on

a natural social impulse, but on a law of the reason, and first gains a

definite criterion in society, and that the interests of the individual are

inseparably connected with those of the community. In any case, the

attempt to form a naturalistic theory of the state would be an undertaking

deserving of thanks, even if the promulgation of this theory had done no

further service than to challenge refutation.

[Footnote 1: God inscribed the divine or natural law (Do not that to

another, etc.) on the heart of man, when he gave him the reason to rule his

actions. The laws of nature are, it is true, not always legally binding

(\_in foro externo\_), but always and everywhere binding on the conscience

(\_in foro interno\_). Justice is the virtue which we can measure by  $\operatorname{civil}$ 

laws; love, that which we measure by the law of nature merely. The ruler

\_ought\_ to govern in accordance with the law of nature.]

%(d) Lord Herbert of Cherbury.%--Between Bacon (1605, 1620) and Hobbes

(1642, 1651) stands Lord Herbert of Cherbury (1581-1648), who, by his

work \_De Veritate\_ (1624),[1] became the founder of deism, that theory of

"natural religion," which, in opposition to the historical dogmatic faith

of the Church theology, takes the reason, which is the same in all men,

as its basis and morality for its content. Lord Herbert

introduces his

philosophy of religion by a theory of knowledge which makes universal

consent the highest criterion of truth (\_summa veritatis norma consensus

universalis\_), and bases knowledge on certain selfevident principles

(\_principia\_), common to all men in virtue of a natural instinct, which

gives safe guidance. These common notions (\_notitiae communes ) precede all

reflective inquiry, as well as all observation and experience, which would

be impossible without them. The most important among them are the religious and ethical maxims of conscience.

[Footnote 1: \_Tractatus de Veritate prout distinguitur a Revelatione, a Verisimili, a Possibile, et a False\_. Also, \_De Religione Gentilium\_, 1645,

complete 1663.

This natural instinct is both an impulse toward truth and a capacity for

good or impulse to self-preservation. The latter extends not only to the

individual but to all things with which the individual is connected, to the

species, nay, to all the rest of the world, and its final goal is eternal

happiness: all natural capacities are directed toward the highest good or

toward God. The sense for the divine may indeed be lulled to sleep or led

astray by our free will, but not eradicated. To be rational and to be

religious are inseparable; it is religion that distinguishes man from the

brute, and no people can be found in which it is lacking. If atheists

really exist, they are to be classed with the irrational and the insane.

The content of natural religion may be summed up in the

following five

articles, which all nations confess: 1. That there is a Supreme Being

(\_numen supremum\_). 2. That he ought to be worshiped. 3. That virtue and

piety are the chief elements of worship. 4. That man ought to repent of his

sins. 5. That there are rewards and punishments in a future life. Besides

these general principles, on the discovery of which Lord Herbert greatly

prides himself, the positive religions contain arbitrary additions, which

distinguish them from one another and which owe their origin, for the most

part, to priestly deception, although the rhapsodies of the poets and the

inventions of the philosophers have contributed their share. The essential

principles of natural religion (God, virtue, faith, hope, love, and

repentance) come more clearly to light in Christianity than in the

religions of heathendom, where they are overgrown with myths and ceremonies.

The \_Religio Medici\_ (1642) of Sir Thomas Browne shows similar tendencies.

## %9. Preliminary Survey.%

In the line of development from the speculations of Nicolas of Cusa to the

establishment of the English philosophy of nature, of religion, and of the

state by Bacon, Herbert, and Hobbes, and to the physics of Galileo, modern

ideas have manifested themselves with increasing clearness and freedom.

Hobbes himself shows thus early the influence of Descartes's decisive step,

with which the twilight gives place to the brightness of the morning. In

Descartes the empiricism and sensationalism of the English is confronted by

rationalism, to which the great thinkers of the Continent continue loyal.

In Britain, experience, on the Continent the reason is declared to be the

source of cognition; in the former, the point of departure is found in

particular impressions of sense, on the latter, in general concepts and

principles of the understanding; there the method of observation is

inculcated and followed, here, the method of deduction. This antithesis

remained decisive in the development of philosophy down to Kant, so that it

has long been customary to distinguish two lines or schools, the Empirical

and the Rationalistic, whose parallelism may be exhibited in the following

table (when only one date is given it indicates the appearance of the

philosopher's chief work):

\_Empiricism. Rationalism\_.
Bacon, 1620. (Nicolas, 1450;

Bruno, 1584).

Hobbes, 1651. \_\_Descartes\_, died 1650.

\_Locke\_, 1690 (1632-1704). Spinoza, (1632-)

Berkeley, 1710. \_\_Leibnitz\_, 1710. Hume, 1748. Wolff, died 1754.

We must not forget, indeed, the lively interchange of ideas between the

schools (especially the influence of Descartes on Hobbes, and of the latter

on Spinoza; further, of Descartes on Locke, and of the latter on Leibnitz)

which led to reciprocal approximation and enrichment. Berkeley and

Leibnitz, from opposite presuppositions, arrive at the same idealistic

conclusion -- there is no real world of matter, but only

spirits and ideas

exist. Hume and Wolff conclude the two lines of development: under the

former, empiricism disintegrates into skepticism; under the latter,

rationalism stiffens into a scholastic dogmatism, soon to run out into a

popular eclecticism of common sense.

If we compare the mental characteristics of the three great nations which,

in the period between Descartes and Kant, participated most productively in

the work of philosophy, -- the Italians, with their receptive temperament and

so active in many fields, exerted a decisive influence on its development

and progress in the transition period alone, -- it will be seen that the

Frenchman tends chiefly to acuteness, the Englishman to clearness and

simplicity, the German to profundity of thought. France is the land of

mathematical, England of practical, Germany of speculative thinkers; the

first is the home of the skeptics, though of the enthusiasts as well; the

second, of the realists; the third, of the idealists.

The English philosopher resembles a geographer who, with conscientious

care, outlines a map of the region through which he journeys; the

Frenchman, an anatomist who, with steady stroke, lays bare the nerves and

muscles of the organism; the German, a mountaineer who loses in clear

vision of particular objects as much as he gains in loftiness of position

and extent of view. The Englishman describes the given reality, the

Frenchman analyses it, the German transfigures it.

The English thinker keeps as close as possible to phenomena, and the

principles which he uses in the explanation of phenomena themselves lie in

the realm of concrete experience. He explains one phenomenon by another; he

classifies and arranges the given material without analyzing it; he keeps

constantly in touch with the popular consciousness. His reverence for

reality, as this presents itself to him, and his distrust of far-reaching

abstraction, are so strong that it is enough for him to take his bearings

from the real, and to give a true reproduction of it, while he willingly

renounces the ambition to form it anew in concepts. With this respect for

concrete reality he combines a similar reverence for ethical postulates.

When the development of a given line of thought threatens to bring him into

conflict with practical life, he is honest enough to draw the conclusions

which follow from his premises and to give them expression, but he avoids

the collision by a simple compromise, shutting up the refinements of

philosophy in the study and yielding in practice to the quidance of

natural instinct and conscience. His support, therefore, of theories which

contradict current views in morals is free from the levity in which the

Frenchman indulges. Life and thought are separate fields, contradictions

between them are borne in patience, and if science draws its material from

life it shows itself grateful for the favor by giving life the benefit of

the useful outcome of its labors, and, at the same time, shielding it from

the revolutionary or disintegrating effect of its doubtful paradoxes.

While the deliberate craft of English philosophy does not willingly lose

sight of the shores of the concrete world, French thought sails boldly and

confidently out into the open sea of abstraction. It is not strange that

it finds the way to the principles more rapidly than the way back to

phenomena. A free road, a fresh start, a straight course--such is the

motto of French thinking. Whatever is inconsistent with rectilinearity is

ignored, or opposed as unfitting. The line drawn by Descartes through the

world between matter and spirit, and that by Rousseau between nature

and culture, are distinctive of the philosophical character of their

countrymen. Dualism is to them entirely congenial; it satisfies their

need for clearness, and with this they are content. Antithesis is in the

Frenchman's blood; he thinks in it and speaks in it, in the salon or on the

platform, in witty jest or in scientific earnestness of thought. Either A

or not-A, and there is no middle ground. This habit of precision and

sharp analysis facilitates the formation of closed parties, whereas each

individual German, in philosophy as in politics, forms a party of his own.

The demand for the removal of the rubbish of existing systems and the

sanguine return to the sources, give French philosophy an unhistorical,

radical, and revolutionary character. Minds of the second order, who are

incapable of taking by themselves the step from that which is given to the

sources, prove their radicalism by following down to the roots that which

others have begun (so Condillac and the sensationalism of Locke). Moreover,

philosophical principles are to be translated into action; the thinker has

shown himself the doctrinaire in his destructive

analysis of that which

is given, so, also, he hopes to play the dictator by overturning existing

institutions and establishing a new order of things, -- only his courageous

endeavor flags as soon in the region of practice as in that of theory.

The German lacks the happy faculty, which distinguishes the two nations

just discussed, of isolating a problem near at hand, and he is accustomed

to begin his system with Leda's egg; but, by way of compensation, he

combines the lofty flight of the French with the phlegmatic endurance of

the English, \_i.e.\_, he seeks his principles far above experience, but,

instead of stopping with the establishment of points of view or when he

has set the note, he carries his principles through in detail with loving

industry and comprehensive architectonic skill. While common sense turns

the scale with the English and analytical thought with the French, the

German allows the fancy and the heart to take an important part in the

discussion, though in such a way that the several faculties work together

and in harmony. While in France rationalism, mysticism, and the philosophy

of the heart were divided among different thinkers (Descartes, Malebranche

and Pascal, Rousseau), there is in every German philosopher something of

all three. The skeptical Kant provides a refuge for the postulates of

thought in the sanctuary of faith; the earnest, energetic Fichte, toward

the end of his life, takes his place among the mystics; Schelling thinks

with the fancy and dreams with the understanding; and under the broad cloak

of the Hegelian dialectic method, beside the reflection

of the Critique of

Reason and of the Science of Knowledge, the fancies of the Philosophy of

Nature, the deep inwardness of Böhme, even the whole wealth of empirical

fact, found a place. As synthesis is predominant in his view of things, so

a harmonizing, conciliatory tendency asserts itself in his relations to his

predecessors: the results of previous philosophers are neither discarded

out of hand nor accepted in the mass, but all that appears in any way

useful or akin to the new system is wrought in at its proper place, though

often with considerable transformation. In this work of mediation there is

considerable loss in definiteness, the just and comprehensive consideration

of the most diverse interests not always making good the loss. And since

such a philosophy, as we have already shown, engages the whole man, its

disciple has neither impulse nor strength left for reforming labors; while,

on the other hand, he perceives no external call to undertake them, since

he views the world through the glasses of his system. Thus philosophy in

Germany, pursued chiefly by specialists, remains a professional affair, and

has not exercised a direct transforming influence on life (for Fichte, who

helped to philosophize the French out of Germany, was an exception); but

its influence has been the greater in the special sciences, which in

Germany more than any other land are handled in a philosophic spirit.

The mental characteristics of these nations are reflected also in their

methods of presentation. The style of the English philosopher is sober,

comprehensible, diffuse, and slightly wearisome. The

French use a fluent,

elegant, lucid style which entertains and dazzles by its epigrammatic

phrases, in which not infrequently the epigram rules the thought. The

German expresses his solid, thoughtful positions in a form which is at

once ponderous and not easily understood; each writer constructs his own

terminology, with a liberal admixture of foreign expressions, and the

length of his paragraphs is exceeded only by the thickness of his books.

These national distinctions may be traced even in externals. The Englishman

makes his divisions as they present themselves at first thought, and rather

from a practical than from a logical point of view. The analytic Frenchman

prefers dichotomy, while trichotomy corresponds to the synthetic,

systematic character of German thinking; and Kant's naïve delight, because

in each class the third category unites its two predecessors, has been

often experienced by many of his countrymen at the sight of their own trichotomies.

The division of labor in the pre-Kantian philosophy among these three

nationalities entirely agrees with the account given of the peculiarities

of their philosophical endowment. The beginning falls to the share of

France; Locke receives that tangled skein, the problem of knowledge,

from the hand of Descartes, and passes it on to Leibnitz; and while the

Illumination in all three countries is converting the gold inherited from

Locke and Leibnitz into small coin, the solution of the riddle rings out from Königsberg.

## PART I.

FROM DESCARTES TO KANT.

#### CHAPTER II.

#### DESCARTES.

The long conflict with Scholasticism, which had been carried on with ever

increasing energy and ever sharper weapons, was brought by Descartes to a

victorious close. The new movement, long desired, long sought, and prepared

for from many directions, at length appears, ready and well-established.

Descartes accomplishes everything needful with the sure simplicity of

genius. He furnishes philosophy with a settled point of departure in

self-consciousness, offers her a method sure to succeed in deduction from

clear and distinct conceptions, and assigns her the mechanical explanation

of nature as her most imperative and fruitful mission.

René Descartes was born at La Haye in Touraine, in 1596, and died at

Stockholm in 1650. Of the studies taught in the Jesuit school at La Flèche,

mathematics alone was able to satisfy his craving for clear and certain

knowledge. The years 1613-17 he spent in Paris; then he enlisted in the

military service of the Netherlands, and, in 1619, in that of Bavaria.

While in winter quarters at Neuburg, he vowed a pilgrimage to Loretto if

the Virgin would show him a way of escape from his tormenting doubts; and

made the saving discovery of the "foundations of a wonderful science."

At the end of four years this vow was fulfilled. On his return to Paris

(1625), he was besought by his learned friends to give to the world his

epoch-making ideas. Though, to escape the distractions of society, he kept

his residence secret, as he had done during his first stay in Paris, and

frequently changed it, he was still unable to secure the complete privacy

and leisure for scientific work which he desired.

Therefore he went to

Holland in 1629, and spent twenty years of quiet productivity in Amsterdam,

Franecker, Utrecht, Leeuwarden, Egmond, Harderwijk, Leyden, the palace of

Endegeest, and five other places. His work here was interrupted only by

a few journeys, but much disturbed in its later years by annoying

controversies with the theologian Gisbert Voëtius of Utrecht, with Regius,

a pupil who had deserted him, and with professors from Leyden. His

correspondence with his French friends was conducted through Père Mersenne.

In 1649 he yielded to pressing invitations from Queen Christina of Sweden

and removed to Stockholm. There his weak constitution was not adequate to

the severity of the climate, and death overtook him within a few months.

The two decades of retirement in the Netherlands were Descartes's

productive period. His motive in developing and writing out his thoughts

was, essentially, the desire not to disappoint the widely spread belief

that he was in possession of a philosophy more certain than the common one.

The work entitled \_Le Monde\_, begun in 1630 and almost completed, remained

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unprinted, as the condemnation of Galileo (1632)
frightened our philosopher
from publication; fragments of it only, and a brief
summary, appeared
after the author's death. The chief works, the
Discourse on Method , the
Meditations on the First Philosophy, and the
Principles of Philosophy
appeared between 1637 and 1644, -- the Discours de la
Méthode in 1637,
together with three dissertations (the "Dioptrics," the
"Meteors," and the
"Geometry"), under the common title, Essais
Philosophiques . To the (six)
Meditationes de Prima Philosophia, published in 1641,
and dedicated to
the Paris Sorbonne, are appended the objections of
various savants to whom
the work had been communicated in manuscript, together
with Descartes's
rejoinders. He himself considered the criticisms of
Arnauld, printed fourth
in order, as the most important. The Third Objections
are from Hobbes, the
Fifth from Gassendi, the First, which were also the
first received, from
the theologian Caterus of Antwerp, while the Second and
Sixth, collected by
Mersenne, are from various theologians and
mathematicians. In the second
edition there were added, further, the Seventh
Objections, by the Jesuit
Bourdin, and the Replies of the author thereto. The four
books of the
Principia Philosophiae , published in 1644 and
dedicated to Elizabeth,
Countess Palatine, give a systematic presentation of the
new philosophy.
The _Discourse on Method appeared, 1644, in a Latin
translation, the
Meditations and the Principles in French, in 1647.
The Treatise on the
Passions was published in 1650; the Letters, 1657-67,
in French, 1668,
in Latin. The Opera Postuma , 1701, beside the
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Compendium of Music
(written in 1618) and other portions of his posthumous
writings, contain
the "Rules for the Direction of the Mind," supposed to
have been written in
1629, and the "Search for Truth by the Light of Nature."
The complete works
have been often published, both in Latin and in French.
The eleven volume
edition of Cousin appeared in 1824-26.[1]
[Footnote 1: Of the many treatises on the philosophy of
Descartes those of
C. Schaarschmidt ( Descartes und Spinoza , 1850) and
J.H. Löwe, 1855, may
be mentioned. Further, M. Heinze has discussed Die
Sittenlehre des
Descartes , 1872; Ed. Grimm, Descartes' Lehre von den
angeborenen
Ideen , 1873; G. Glogau, Darlegung und Kritik des
Grundgedankens der
Cartesianisch. Metaphysik (Zeitschrift für Philosophie,
vol. lxxiii. p.
209 seq .), 1878; Paul Natorp, Descartes'
Erkenntnisstheorie , 1882;
and Kas. Twardowsk\overline{i}, _Idee und Perception_ in Descartes,
1892. In French,
Francisque Bouillier ( Histoire de la Philosophie
Cartésienne, 1854) and
E. Saisset ( Précurseurs et Disciples de Descartes ,
1862) have written
on Cartesianism. [The Method, Meditations, and
Selections from the
Principles have been translated into English by John
Veitch, 5th ed.,
1879, and others since; and H.A.P. Torrey has published
The Philosophy
of Descartes in Extracts from his Writings , 1892
(Sneath's Modern
Philosophers). The English reader may be referred, also,
to Mahaffy's
Descartes , 1880, in Blackwood's Philosophical
Classics; to the article
"Cartesianism," Encyclopedia Britannica , 9th ed., vol.
v., by Edward
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Caird; and, for a complete discussion, to the English translation of

Fischer's \_Descartes and his School\_' by J.P. Gordy, 1887.--TR.]]

We begin our discussion with Descartes's noëtical and metaphysical

principles, and then take up in order his doctrine of nature and of man.

# %1. The Principles%.

That which passes nowadays for science, and is taught as such in the

schools, is nothing but a mass of disconnected, uncertain, and often

contradictory opinions. A principle of unity and certainty is entirely

lacking. If anything permanent and irrefutable is to be accomplished in

science, everything hitherto considered true must be thoroughly demolished

and built up anew. For we come into the world as children and we form

judgments of things, or repeat them after others, before we have come into

the full possession of our intellectual powers; so that it is no wonder

that we are filled with a multitude of prejudices, from which we can

thoroughly escape only by considering everything doubtful which shows the

least sign of uncertainty. Let us renounce, therefore, all our old views,

in order later to accept better ones in their stead; or, perchance, to

take the former up again after they shall have stood the test of rational

criticism. The recognized precaution, never to put complete confidence in

that which has once deceived us, holds of our relation to the senses as

elsewhere. It is certain that they sometimes deceive us--perhaps they do so always. Again, we dream every day of things which nowhere exist, and there

is no certain criterion by which to distinguish our dreams from our waking

moments, -- what guarantee have we, then, that we are not always dreaming?

Therefore, our doubt must first of all be directed to the existence of

sense-objects. Nay, even mathematics must be suspected in spite of the

apparent certainty of its axioms and demonstrations, since controversy

and error are found in it also.

I doubt or deny, then, that the world is what it appears to be, that there

is a God, that external objects exist, that I have a body, that twice

two are four. One thing, however, it is impossible for me to bring into

question, namely, that I myself, who exercise this doubting function,

exist. There is one single point at which doubt is forced to halt--at the

doubter, at the self-existence of the thinker. I can doubt everything

except that I doubt, and that, in doubting, I am. Even if a superior being

sought to deceive me in all my thinking, he could not succeed unless I

existed, he could not cause me not to exist so long as I thought. To be

deceived means to think falsely; but that something is thought, no matter

what it be, is no deception. It might be true, indeed, that nothing at all

existed; but then there would be no one to conceive this non-existence.

Granted that everything may be a mistake; yet the being mistaken, the

thinking is not a mistake. Everything is denied, but the denier remains.

The whole content of consciousness is destroyed; consciousness itself, the

doubting activity, the being of the thinker, is

indestructible. \_Cogitatio sola a me divelli nequit\_. Thus the settled point of departure required for knowledge is found in the \_self-certitude of the thinking ego\_. From the fact that I doubt, \_i.e.\_, think, it follows that I, the doubter, the thinker, am. \_Cogito, ergo sum\_ is the first and most certain of all truths.

The principle, "I think, therefore I am," is not to be considered a deduction from the major premise, "Whatever thinks exists." It is rather true that this general proposition is derived from the particular and earlier one. I must first realize in my own experience that, as thinking, I exist, before I can reach the general conclusion that thought and existence are inseparable. This fundamental truth is thus not a syllogism, but a not further deducible, self-evident, immediate cognition, a pure intuition -- sum cogitans . Now, if my existence is revealed by my activity of thought, if my thought is my being, and the converse, if in me thought and existence are identical, then I am a being whose essence consists in thinking. I am a spirit, an ego, a rational soul. My existence follows only from my thinking, not from any chance action. Ambulo ergo sum would not be valid, but mihi videor or puto me ambulare, ergo sum . If I believe

I am walking, I may undoubtedly be deceived concerning the outward action

(as, for instance, in dreams), but never concerning my inward belief.

\_Cogitatio\_ includes all the conscious activities of the mind, volition,

emotion, and sensation, as well as representation and cognition; they are

all \_modi cogitandi\_. The existence of the mind is therefore the most

certain of all things. We know the soul better than the body. It is for

the present the only certainty, and every other is dependent on this, the highest of all.

What, then, is the peculiarity of this first and most certain knowledge

which renders it self-evident and independent of all proof, which makes

us absolutely unable to doubt it? Its entire clearness and distinctness.

Accordingly, I may conclude that everything which I perceive as clearly and

distinctly as the \_cogito ergo sum\_ is also true, and I reach this general

rule, \_omne est verum, quod clare et distincte percipio . So far, then, we

have gained three things: a challenge; to be inscribed over the portals

of certified knowledge, \_de omnibus dubitandum\_; a basal truth, \_sum

cogitans\_; a criterion of truth, \_clara et distinct a perceptio\_.

The doubt of Descartes is not the expression of a resigned spirit which

renounces the unattainable; it is precept, not doctrine, the starting point

of philosophy, not its conclusion, a methodological instrument in the hand

of a strong and confident longing for truth, which makes use of doubt to

find the indubitable. It is not aimed at the possibility of attaining

knowledge, but at the opinion that it has already been attained, at the

credulity of the age, at its excessive tendency toward historical and

poly-historical study, which confuses the acquisition and handing down of

information with knowledge of the truth. That knowledge alone is certain

which is self-attained and self-tested--and this cannot be learned

or handed down; it can only be rediscovered through examination and

experience. Instead of taking one's own unsupported conjectures or the

opinions of others as a guide, the secret of the search for truth is to

become independent and of age, to think for one's self; and the only remedy

against the dangers of self-deception and the ease of repetition is to be

found in doubting everything hitherto considered true. This is the meaning

of the Cartesian doubt, which is more comprehensive and more thorough

than the Baconian. Descartes disputed only the certitude of the knowledge

previously attained, not the possibility of knowledge-for of the latter no

man is more firmly convinced than he. He is a rationalist, not a skeptic.

The intellect is assured against error just as soon as, freed from

hindrances, it remains true to itself, as it puts forth all its powers and

lets nothing pass for truth which is not clearly and distinctly known.

Descartes demands the same thing for the human understanding as Rousseau at

a later period for the heart: a return to uncorrupted nature. This faith in

the unartificial, the original, the natural, this radical and naturalistic

tendency is characteristically French. The purification of the mind, its

deliverance from the rubbish of scholastic learning, from the pressure of

authority, and from inert acceptance of the thinking of others--this is

all. Descartes finds the clearest proof of the mind's capacity for truth in

mathematics, whose trustworthiness he never seriously questioned, but only

hypothetically, in order to exhibit the still higher

certainty of the "I

think, therefore I am." He wants to give philosophy the stable character

which had so impressed him in mathematics when he was a boy, and recommends

her, therefore, not merely the evidence of mathematics as a general

example, but the mathematical method for definite imitation. Metaphysics,

like mathematics, must derive its conclusions by deduction from

self-evident principles. Thus the geometrical method begins its rule in

philosophy, a rule not always attended with beneficial results.

With this criterion of truth Descartes advances to the consideration of

ideas. He distinguishes volition and judgment from ideas in the narrow

sense (\_imagines\_), and divides the latter, according to their origin, into

three classes: \_ideae innatae, adventitiae, a me ipso factae\_, considering

the second class, the "adventitious" ideas, the most numerous, but the

first, the "innate" ideas, the most important. No idea is higher or clearer

than the idea of God or the most perfect being. Whence comes this idea?

That every idea must have a cause, follows from the "clear and distinct"

principle that nothing produces nothing. It follows from this same

principle, \_ex nihilo nihil fit\_, however, that the
cause must contain as

much reality or perfection--\_realitas\_ and \_perfectio\_ are synonymous--as

the effect, for otherwise the overplus would have come from nothing. So

much ("objective," representative) reality contained in an idea, so much or

more ("formal," actual) reality must be contained in its cause. The idea

of God as infinite, independent, omnipotent, omniscient,

and creative

substance, has not come to me through the senses, nor have I formed it

myself. The power to conceive a being more perfect than myself, can have

only come from someone who is more perfect in reality than I. Since I know

that the infinite contains more reality than the finite, I may conclude

that the idea of the infinite has not been derived from the idea of the

finite by abstraction and negation; it precedes the latter, and I become

conscious of my defects and my finitude only by comparison with the

absolute perfection of God. This idea, then, must have been implanted in me

by God himself. The idea of God is an original endowment; it is as innate

as the idea of myself. However incomplete it may be, it is still

sufficient to give a knowledge of God's existence, although not a perfect

comprehension of his being, just as a man may skirt a mountain without encircling it.

Descartes brings in the idea of God in order to escape solipsism. So long

as the self-consciousness of the ego remained the only certainty, there was

no conclusive basis for the assumption that anything exists beyond self,

that the ideas which apparently come from without are really occasioned by

external things and do not spring from the mind itself. For our natural

instinct to refer them to objects without us might well be deceptive. It is

only through the idea of God, and by help of the principle that the cause

must contain at least as much reality as the effect, that I am taken beyond

myself and assured that I am not the only thing in the world. For as this

idea contains more of representative, than I of actual reality, I cannot have been its cause.

To this empirical argument, which derives God's existence from our idea

of God (from the fact that we have an idea of him), Descartes joins the

(modified) ontological argument of Anselm, which deduces the existence of

God from the concept of God. While the ideas of all other things include

only the possibility of existence, necessary existence is inseparable from

the concept of the most perfect being. God cannot be thought apart from

existence; he has the ground of his existence in himself; he is a se

or \_causa sui\_. Finally, Descartes adds a third argument. The idea of

perfections which I do not possess can only have been imparted to me by a

more perfect being than I, which has bestowed on me all that I am and

all that I am capable of becoming. If I had created myself, I would have

bestowed upon myself these absent perfections also. And the existence of a

plurality of causes is negatived by the supreme perfection which I conceive

in the idea of God, the indivisible unity of his attributes. Among the

attributes of God his veracity is of special importance. It is impossible

that he should will to deceive us; that he should be the cause of our

errors. God would be a deceiver, if he had endowed us with a reason to

which error should appear true, even when it uses all its foresight in

avoiding it and assents only to that which it clearly and distinctly

perceives. Error is man's own fault; he falls into it only when he misuses

the divine gift of knowledge, which includes its own

standard. Thus

Descartes finds new confirmation for his test of truth in the veracitas

dei\_. Erdmann has given a better defense of Descartes than the philosopher

himself against the charge that this is arguing in a circle, inasmuch as

the existence of God is proved by the criterion of truth, and then the

latter by the former: The criterion of certitude is the ratio cognoscendi

of God's existence; God is the \_ratio essendi\_ of the criterion of

certitude. In the order of existence God is first, he creates the reason

together with its criterion; in the order of knowledge the criterion

precedes, and God's existence follows from it. Descartes himself endeavors

to avoid the circle by making \_intuitive\_ knowledge self-evident, and by

not bringing in the appeal to God's veracity in \_demonstrative\_ knowledge

until, in reflective thought, we no longer have each separate link in the

chain of proof present to our minds with full intuitive certainty, but only

remember that we have previously understood the matter with clearness and distinctness.

Our ideas represent in part things, in part qualities. Substance is defined

by the concept of independence as \_res quae ita existit, ut nulla alia re

indigeat ad existendum\_; a pregnant definition with
which the concept of

substance gains the leadership in metaphysics, which it held till the time

of Hume and Kant, sharing it then with the conception of cause or, rather,

relinquishing it to the latter. The Spinozistic conclusion that, according

to the strict meaning of this definition, there is but one substance, God,

who, as \_causa sui\_, has absolutely no need of any other thing in order to

his existence, was announced by Descartes himself. If created substances

are under discussion, the term does not apply to them in the same sense

(not \_univoce\_) as when we speak of the infinite substance; created beings

require a different explanation, they are things which need for their

existence only the co-operation of God, and have no need of one another.

Substance is cognized through its qualities, among which one is pre-eminent

from the fact that it expresses the essence or nature of the thing, and

that it is conceived through itself, without the aid of the others, while

they presuppose it and cannot be thought without it. The former fundamental

properties are termed attributes, and these secondary ones, modes or

accidents. Position, figure, motion, are contingent properties of

body; they presuppose that it is extended or spatial; they are modi

extensionis\_, as feeling, volition, desire,
representation, and judgment

are possible only in a conscious being, and hence are merely modifications

of thought. Extension is the essential or constitutive attribute of body,

and thought of mind. Body is never without extension, and mind never

without thought--\_mens semper cogitat\_. Guided by the self-evident

principle that the non-existent has no properties, we argue from a

perceived quality to a substance as its possessor or support. Substances

are distinct from one another when we can clearly and distinctly cognize

one without the other. Now, we can adequately conceive mind without a

corporeal attribute and body without a spiritual one;

the former has

nothing of extension in it, the latter nothing of thought: hence thinking

substance and extended substance are entirely distinct and have nothing

in common. Matter and mind are distinct \_realiter\_, matter and extension

\_idealiter\_ merely. Thus we attain three clear and distinct ideas, three

eternal verities: \_substantia infinita sive deus, substantia finita

cogitans sive mens, substantia extensa sive corpus\_.

By this abrupt contraposition of body and mind as reciprocally independent

substances, Descartes founded that dualism, as whose typical representative

he is still honored or opposed. This dualism between the material and

spiritual worlds belongs to those standpoints which are valid without being

ultimate truth; on the pyramid of metaphysical knowledge it takes a high,

but not the highest, place. We may not rest in it, yet it retains a

permanent value in opposition to subordinate theories. It is in the

right against a materialism which still lacks insight into the essential

distinction between mind and matter, thought and extension, consciousness

and motion; it loses its validity when, with a full consideration and

conservation of the distinction between these two spheres, we succeed in

bridging over the gulf between them, whether this is accomplished through

a philosophy of identity, like that of Spinoza and Schelling, or by an

idealism, like that of Leibnitz or Fichte. In any case philosophy retains

as an inalienable possession the negative conclusion, that, in view of the

heterogeneity of consciousness and motion, the inner life is not reducible

to material phenomena. This clear and simple distinction, which sets bounds

to every confusion of spiritual and material existence, was an act of

emancipation; it worked on the sultry intellectual atmosphere of the time

with the purifying and illuminating power of a lightning flash. We shall

find the later development of philosophy starting from the Cartesian dualism.

Descartes himself looked upon the fundamental principles which have now

been discussed as merely the foundation for his life work, as the entrance

portal to his cosmology. Posterity has judged otherwise; it finds his chief

work in that which he considered a mere preparation for it. The start from

doubt, the self-certitude of the thinking ego, the rational criterion of

certitude, the question of the origin of ideas, the concept of substance,

the essential distinction between conscious activity and corporeal being,

and, also, the principle of thoroughgoing mechanism in the material world

(from his philosophy of nature) -- these are the thoughts which assure his

immortality. The vestibule has brought the builder more fame, and has

proved more enduring, than the temple: of the latter only the ruins remain;

the former has remained undestroyed through the centuries.

## %2. Nature.%

What guarantee have we for the existence of material objects affecting our

senses? That the ideas of sense do not come from ourselves, is shown by

the fact that it is not in our power to determine the

objects which we

perceive, or the character of our perception of them.

The supposition that

God has caused our perceptions directly, or by means of something which has

no resemblance whatever to an external object extended in three dimensions

and movable, is excluded by the fact that God is not a deceiver. In

reliance on God's veracity we may accept as true whatever the reason

declares concerning body, though not all the reports of the senses,

which so often deceive us. At the instance of the senses we clearly and

distinctly perceive matter distinct from our mind and from God, extended

in three dimensions, length, breadth, and depth, with variously formed and

variously moving parts, which occasion in us sensations of many kinds. The

belief that perception makes known things as they really are is a prejudice

of sense to be discarded; on the contrary, it merely informs us concerning

the utility or harmfulness of objects, concerning their relation to man as

a being composed of soul and body. (The body is that material thing which

is very intimately joined with the mind, and occasions in the latter

certain feelings, \_e.g.\_, pain, which as merely cogitative it would not

have.) Sense qualities, as color, sound, odor, cannot constitute the

essence of matter, for their variation or loss changes nothing in it; I can

abstract from them without the material thing disappearing.[1] There is one

property, however, extensive magnitude (\_quantitas\_),
whose removal would

imply the destruction of matter itself. Thus I perceive by pure thought

that the essence of matter consists in extension, in that which constitutes

the object of geometry, in that magnitude which is divisible, figurable,

and movable. This thesis (\_corpus = extensio sive spatium\_) is next

defended by Descartes against several objections. In reply to the objection

drawn from the condensation and rarefaction of bodies, he urges that the

apparent increase or decrease in extension is, in fact, a mere change of

figure; that the rarefaction of a body depends on the increase in size of

the intervals between its parts, and the entrance into them of foreign

bodies, just as a sponge swells up when its pores become filled with water

and, therefore, enlarged. The demand that the pores, and the bodies which

force their way into them, should always be perceptible to the senses, is

groundless. He meets the second point, that we call extension by itself

\_space\_, and not body, by maintaining that the
distinction between

extension and corporeal substance is a distinction in thought, and not in

reality; that attribute and substance, mathematical and physical bodies,

are not distinct in fact but only in our thought of them. We apply the

term space to extension in general, as an abstraction, and body to a given

individual, determinate, limited extension. In reality, wherever extension

is, there substance is also, -- the non-existent has no extension, -- and

wherever space is, there matter is also. Empty space does not exist.

When we say a vessel is empty, we mean that the bodies which fill it are

imperceptible; if it were absolutely empty its sides
would touch. Descartes

argues against the atomic theory and against the finitude of the world, as

he argues against empty space: matter, as well as space,

has no smallest,

indivisible parts, and the extension of the world has no end. In the

identification of space and matter the former receives fullness from

the latter, and the latter unlimitedness from the former, both internal

unlimitedness (endless divisibility) and external (boundlessness). Hence

there are not several matters but only one (homogeneous) matter, and only one (illimitable) world.

(Footpote 1. They are marely subjective

[Footnote 1: They are merely subjective states in the perceiver, and

entirely unlike the motions which give rise to them, although there is

a certain agreement, as the differences and variations in sensation are

paralleled by those in the object.]

Matter is divisible, figurable, movable quantity.

Natural science needs no

other principles than these indisputably true conceptions, by which all

natural phenomena may be explained, and must employ no others. The most

important is motion, on which all the diversity of forms depends. Corporeal

being has been shown to be extension; corporeal becoming is motion. Motion

is defined as "the transporting of one part of matter, or of one body, from

the vicinity of those bodies that are in immediate contact with it,

or which we regard as at rest, to the vicinity of other bodies." This

separation of bodies is reciprocal, hence it is a matter of choice which

shall be considered at rest. Besides its own proper motion in reference to

the bodies in its immediate vicinity, a body can participate in very many

other motions: the traveler walking back and forth on the deck of a ship,

for instance, in the motion of the vessel, of the waves, and of the earth.

The common view of motion as an activity is erroneous; since it requires

force not only to set in motion bodies which are at rest, but also to stop

those which are in motion, it is clear that motion implies no more activity

than rest. Both are simply different states of matter. Since there is no

empty space, each motion spreads to a whole circle of bodies: A forces B

out of its place, B drives out C, and so on, until Z takes up the position which A has left.

The ultimate cause of motion is God. He has created bodies with an

original measure of motion and rest, and, in accordance with his immutable

character, he preserves this quantity of motion unchanged: it remains

constant in the world as a whole, though it varies in individual bodies.

For with the power to create or destroy motion bodies lack, further, the

power to alter their quantity of motion. By the side of God, the primary

cause of motion, the laws of motion appear as secondary causes. The first

of these is the one become familiar under the name, law of inertia:

Everything continues of itself in the state (of motion or rest) in which it

is, and changes its state only as a result of some extraneous cause. The

second of these laws, which are so valuable in mechanics, runs: Every

portion of matter tends to continue a motion which has been begun in the

same direction, hence in a straight line, and changes its direction only

under the influence of another body, as in the case of the circle above

described. Descartes bases these laws on the

unchangeableness of God and

the simplicity of his world-conserving (\_i.e.\_, constantly creative)

activity. The third law relates to the communication of motion; but

Descartes does not recognize the equality of action and reaction as

universally as the fact demands. If a body in motion meets another body,

and its power (to continue its motion in a straight line) is less than the

resistance of the other on which it has impinged, it retains its motion,

but in a different direction: it rebounds in the opposite direction. If, on

the contrary, its force is greater, it carries the other body along with

it, and loses so much of its own motion as it imparts to the latter. The

seven further rules added to these contain much that is erroneous. As

 $\_{\tt actio}$  in distans $\_$  is rejected, all the phenomena of motion are traced back

to pressure and impulse. The distinction between fluid and solid bodies is

based on the greater or less mobility of their parts.

The leading principle in the special part of the Cartesian physics, --we

can only briefly sketch it, -- which embraces, first, celestial, and, then,

terrestial phenomena, is the axiom that we cannot estimate God's power and

goodness too highly, nor ourselves too meanly. It is presumptuous to seek

to comprehend the purposes of God in creation, to consider ourselves

participants in his plans, to imagine that things exist simply for our

sake--there are many things which no man sees and which
are of advantage

to none. Nothing is to be interpreted teleologically, but all must be

interpreted from clearly known attributes, hence purely mechanically.

After treating of the distances of the various heavenly bodies, of the

independent light of the sun and the fixed stars and the reflected light of

the planets, among which the earth belongs, Descartes discusses the motion

of the heavenly bodies. In reference to the motion of the earth he seeks a

middle course between the theories of Copernicus and Tycho Brahé. He agrees

with Copernicus in the main point, but, in reliance on his definition

of motion, maintains that the earth is at rest, viz., in respect to its

immediate surroundings. It is clear that the harmony of his views with

those of the Church (though it was only a verbal agreement) was not

unwelcome to him. According to his hypothesis, -- as he suggests, perhaps an

erroneous hypothesis, -- the fluid matter which fills the heavenly spaces,

and which may be compared to a vortex or whirlpool, circles about the sun

and carries the planets along with it. Thus the planets move in relation to

the sun, but are at rest in relation to the adjacent portions of the matter

of the heavens. In view of the biblical doctrine, according to which the

world and all that therein is was created at a stroke, he apologetically

describes his attempt to explain the origin of the world from chaos under

the laws of motion as a scientific fiction, intended merely to make the

process more comprehensible. It is more easily conceivable, if we think

of the things in the world as though they had been gradually formed from

elements, as the plant develops from the seed. We now pass to the Cartesian

anthropology, with its three chief objects: the body, the soul, and the union of the two.

## 3. %Man.%

The human body, like all organic bodies, is a machine. Artificial automata

and natural bodies are distinguished only in degree. Machines fashioned by

the hand of man perform their functions by means of visible and tangible

instruments, while natural bodies employ organs which, for the most part,

are too minute to be perceived. As the clock-maker constructs a clock from

wheels and weights so that it is able to go of itself, so God has made

man's body out of dust, only, being a far superior artist, he produces a

work of art which is better constructed and capable of far more wonderful

movements. The cause of death is the destruction of some important part of

the machine, which prevents it from running longer; a corpse is a broken

clock, and the departure of the soul comes only as a result of death. The

common opinion that the soul generates life in the body is erroneous. It

is rather true that life must be present before the soul enters into union

with the body, as it is also true that life must have ended before it dissolves the bond.

The sole principles of physiology are motion and heat. The heat (vital

warmth, a fire without light), which God has put in the heart as the

central organ of life, has for its function the promotion of the

circulation of the blood, in the description of which Descartes mentions

with praise the discoveries of Harvey \_(De Motu Cordis et Sanguinis in

Animalibus\_, 1628). From the blood are separated its

finest, most fiery,

and most mobile parts, called by Descartes "animal
spirits" \_(spiritus

animales sive corporales\_), and described as a "very subtle wind" or "pure

and vivid flame," which ascend into the cavities of the brain, reach

the pineal gland suspended in its center \_(conarion, glans pinealis,

glandula\_), pass into the nerves, and, by their action
on the muscles

connected with the nerves, effect the motions of the limbs. These views

refer to the body alone, and so are as true of animals as of men. If

automata existed similar to animals in all respects, both external and

internal, it would be absolutely impossible to distinguish them from real

animals. If, however, they were made to resemble human bodies, two signs

would indicate their unreality--we would find no communication of ideas by

means of language, and also an absence of those bodily movements which

take their origin in the reason (and not merely in the constitution of the

body). The only thing which raises man above the brute is his rational

soul, which we are on no account to consider a product of matter, but which

is an express creation of God, superadded. The union of the soul or the

mind \_(anima sive mens\_) with the body is, it is true,
not so loose that

the mind merely dwells in the body, like a pilot in a ship, nor, on the

other hand, in view of the essential contrariety of the two substances, is

it so intimate as to be more than a \_unio compositionis . Although the soul

is united to the whole body, an especially active intercourse between them

is developed at a single point, the pineal gland, which is distinguished by

its central, protected position, above all, by the fact that it is the only

cerebral organ that is not double. This gland, together with the animal

spirits passing to and from it, mediates between mind and body; and as the

point of union for the twofold impressions from the (right and left) eyes

and ears, without which objects would be perceived double instead of

single, is the seat of the soul. Here the soul exercises a direct influence

on the body and is directly affected by it; here it dwells, and at will

produces a slight, peculiar movement of the gland, through this a change

in the course of the animal spirits (for it is not capable of generating

motion, but only of changing its direction), and, finally, movements of the

members; just as, on the other hand, it remarks the slightest change in the

course of the \_spiritus\_ through a corresponding
movement of the gland,

whose motions vary according to the sensuous properties of the object to be

perceived, and responds by sensations. Although Descartes thus limits the

direct interaction of soul and body to a small part of the organism, he

makes an exception in the case of \_memoria\_, which appears to him to be

more of a physical than a psychical function, and which he conjectures to

be diffused through the whole brain.

In spite of the comprehensive meaning which Descartes gives to the notion

\_cogitatio\_, it is yet too narrow to leave room for an \_anima vegetativa\_

and an \_anima sensitiva\_. Whoever makes mind and soul equivalent, holds

that their essence consists in conscious activity alone, and interprets

sensation as a mode of thought, cannot escape the

paradox of denying to

animals the possession of a soul. Descartes does not shrink from such

a conclusion. Animals are mere machines; they are bodies animated, but

soulless; they lack conscious perception and appetition, though not the

appearance of them. When a clock strikes seven it knows nothing of the

fact; it does not regret that it is so late nor long soon to be able to

strike eight; it wills nothing, feels nothing, perceives nothing. The lot

of the brute is the same. It sees and hears nothing, it does not hunger or

thirst, it does not rejoice or fear, if by these anything more than mere

corporeal phenomena is to be meant; of all these it possesses merely the

unconscious material basis; it moves and motion goes on in it--that is all.

The psychology of Descartes, which has had important results,[1] divides

\_cogitationes\_ into two classes: \_actiones\_ and passiones . Action denotes

everything which takes its origin in, and is in the power of, the soul;

passion, everything which the soul receives from without, in which it can

make no change, which is impressed upon it. The further development of this

distinction is marred by the crossing of the most diverse lines of thought,

resulting in obscurities and contradictions. Descartes's simple, naïve

habits of thought and speech, which were those of a man of the world rather

than of a scholar, were quite incompatible with the adoption and consistent

use of a finely discriminated terminology; he is very free with sive , and

not very careful with the expressions \_actio, passio, perceptio, affectio,

volitio\_. First he equates activity and willing, for the will springs

exclusively from the soul--it is only in willing that the latter is entirely independent; while, on the other hand,

passivity is made

equivalent to representation and cognition, for the soul does not create

its ideas, but receives them, -- sensuous impressions coming to her quite

evidently from the body. These equations, "\_actio\_--the practical, passio

= the theoretical function," are soon limited and modified, however. The

natural appetites and affections are forms of volition, it is true, but not

free products of the mind, for they take their origin in its connection

with the body. Further, not all perceptions have a sensuous origin; when

the soul makes free use of its ideas in imagination, especially when in

pure thought it dwells on itself, when without the interference of the

imagination it gazes on its rational nature, it is by no means passive

merely. Every act of the will, again, is accompanied by the consciousness

of volition. The \_volitio\_ is an activity, the \_cogitatio volitionis\_ a

passivity; the soul affects itself, is passively affected through its own

activity, is at the same instant both active and passive.

[Footnote 1: For details cf. the able monograph of Dr. Anton Koch, 1881.]

Thus not every volition, \_e.g.\_ sensuous desire, is action nor all

perception, \_e.g.\_ that of the pure intellect, passion. Finally, certain

psychical phenomena fall indifferently under the head of perception or of

volition, \_e.g.\_, pain, which is both an indistinct idea of something and

an impulse to shun it. In accordance with these

emendations, and omitting certain disturbing points of secondary importance, the matter may be thus represented:

COGITATIO.	
ACTIO	   PASSIO 
(Mens sola; clarae et distinctae corpore; ideae.)	   (Mens unita cum   confusae ideae.)
VOLITIO: 6. Voluntas. 3b. Commotiones Appetitus naturales.   intellectuales	
 	\
	v
Judicium.	¦ Sensus
	<del>+</del>
PERCEPTIO: 4. Imag:	 inatio ^
5 Intollogius (b. Dhantasia	\

5. Intellectus 4b. Phantasia. | 4a. Memoria. 1. Sensus externi.

Accordingly six grades of mental function are to be distinguished: (1)
The external senses. (2) The natural appetites. (3) The passions (which, together with the natural appetites, constitute the internal senses, and from which the mental emotions produced by the

intellect are quite

distinct). (4) The imagination with its two divisions, passive memory and

active phantasy. (5) The intellect or reason. (6) The will. These various

stages or faculties are, however, not distinct parts of the soul, as in the

old psychology, in opposition to which Descartes emphatically defends the

\_unity of the soul\_. It is one and the same psychical power that exercises

the higher and the lower, the rational and the sensuous, the practical and

the theoretical activities.

Of the mental functions, whether representative images, perceptions, or

volitions, a part are referred to body (to parts of our own body, often

also to external objects), and produced by the body (by the animal spirits

and, generally, by the nerves as well), while the rest find both object and

cause in the soul. Intermediate between the two classes stand those acts

of the will which are caused by the soul, but which relate to the body,

\_e.g.\_, when I resolve to walk or leap; and, what is more important, the

\_passions\_, which relate to the soul itself, but which are called forth,

sustained, and intensified by certain motions of the animal spirits. Since

only those beings which consist of a body as well as a soul are capable of

the passions, these are specifically human phenomena. These affections,

though very numerous, may be reduced to a few simple or primary ones,

of which the rest are mere specializations or combinations. Descartes

enumerates six primitive passions (which number Spinoza afterward reduced

one-half)--\_admiratio, amor et odium, cupiditas (désir),
gaudium et

tristitia\_. The first and the fourth have no opposites, the former being

neither positive nor negative, and the latter both at once. Wonder, which

includes under it esteem and contempt, signifies interest in an object

which neither attracts us by its utility nor repels us by its hurtfulness,

and yet does not leave us indifferent. It is aroused by the powerful or

surprising impression made by the extraordinary, the rare, the unexpected.

Love seeks to appropriate that which is profitable; hate, to ward off that

which is harmful, to destroy that which is hostile. Desire or longing looks

with hope or fear to the future. When that which is feared or hoped for

has come to pass, joy and grief come in, which relate to existing good and

evil, as desire relates to those to come.

The Cartesian theory of the passions forms the bridge over which its author

passes from psychology to ethics. No soul is so weak as to be incapable of

completely mastering its passions, and of so directing them that from them

all there will result that joyous temper advantageous to the reason. The

freedom of the will is unlimited. Although a direct influence on the

passions is denied it, -- it can neither annul them merely at its bidding,

nor at once reduce them to silence, at least, not the more violent

ones,--it still has an indirect power over them in two ways. During the

continuance of the affection (e.g., fear) it is able to arrest the bodily

movements to which the affection tends (flight), though not the emotion

itself, and, in the intervals of quiet, it can take measures to render a

new attack of the passion less dangerous. Instead of

enlisting one passion

against another, a plan which would mean only an appearance of freedom,

but in fact a continuance in bondage, the soul should fight with its own

weapons, with fixed maxims \_(judicia)\_, based on certain knowledge of good

and evil. The will conquers the emotions by means of principles, by clear

and distinct knowledge, which sees through and corrects the false values

ascribed to things by the excitement of the passions. Besides this negative

requirement, "subjection of the passions," Descartes' contributions to

ethics--in the letters to Princess Elizabeth on human happiness, and to

Queen Christina on love and the highest good--were inconsiderable. Wisdom

is the carrying out of that which has been seen to be best, virtue is

steadfastness, sin inconstancy therein. The goal of human endeavor is peace

of conscience, which is attained only through the determination to be

virtuous, i.e., to live in harmony with self.

Besides its ethical mission, the will has allotted to it the theoretical

function of affirmation and negation, i.e., of judgment. If God in his

veracity and goodness has bestowed on man the power to know truth, how is

misuse of this power, how is error possible? Single sensations and ideas

cannot be false, but only judgments--the reference of ideas to objects.

Judgment or assent is a matter of the will; so that when it makes erroneous

affirmations or negations, when it prefers the false judgment to the true,

it alone is guilty. Our understanding is limited, our will unlimited; the

latter reaches further than the former, and can assent to a judgment

even before its constituent parts have attained the requisite degree of

clearness. False judgment is prejudgment, for which we can hold neither God

nor our own nature responsible. The possibility of error, as well as the

possibility of avoiding error, resides in the will. This has the power to

postpone its assent or dissent, to hold back its decision until the ideas

have become entirely clear and distinct. The supreme perfection is the

\_libertas non errandi\_. Thus knowledge itself becomes a moral function; the

true and the good are in the last analysis identical. The contradiction

with which Descartes has been charged, that he makes volition and cognition

reciprocally determinative, that he bases moral goodness on the clearness

of ideas and \_vice versa\_, does not exist. We must distinguish between a

theoretical and a practical stadium in the will; it is true of the latter

that it depends on knowledge of the right, of the former that the knowledge

of the right is dependent on it. In order to the possibility of moral

\_action\_ the will must conform to clear judgment; in order to the

production of the latter the will must \_be\_ moral. It is the unit-soul,

which first, by freely avoiding overhasty judgment, cognizes the truth, to

exemplify it later in moral conduct.

## CHAPTER III.

THE DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSFORMATION OF CARTESIANISM IN THE NETHERLANDS AND IN FRANCE.[1]

[Footnote 1: Cf. G. Monchamp, Histoire du Cartésianisme

en Belgique\_,
Brussels, 1886.]

# %1. Occasionalism: Geulincx.%

The propagation and defense of a system of thought soon give occasion

to its adherents to purify, complete, and transform it. Obscurities and

contradictions are discovered, which the master has overlooked or allowed

to remain, and the disciple exerts himself to remove them, while retaining

the fundamental doctrines. In the system of Descartes there were two

closely connected points which demanded clarification and correction, viz.,

his double dualism (1) between extended substance and thinking substance,

(2) between created substance and the divine substance. In contrast with

each other matter and mind are substances or independent beings, for

the clear conception of body contains naught of consciousness, thought,

representation, and that of mind nothing of extension, matter, motion.

In comparison with God they are not so; apart from the creator they can

neither exist nor be conceived. In every case where the attempt is made to

distinguish between intrinsic and general (as here, between substance in

the stricter and wider senses), an indecision betrays itself which is not permanently endured.

The substantiality of the material and spiritual worlds maintained by

Descartes finds an excellent counterpart in his (entirely modern) tendency

to push the \_concursus dei\_ as far as possible into the background, to

limit it to the production of the original condition of things, to give

over motion, once created, to its own laws, and ideas implanted in the mind

to its own independent activity; but it is hard to reconcile with it the

view, popular in the Middle Ages, that the preservation of the world is a

perpetual creation. In the former case the relation of God to the world is

made an external relation; in the latter, an internal one. In the one the

world is thought of as a clock, which once wound up runs on mechanically,

in the second it is likened to a piece of music which the composer himself

recites. If God preserves created things by continually recreating them

they are not substances at all; if they are substances, preservation

becomes an empty word, which we repeat after the theologians without giving it any real meaning.

Matter and spirit stand related in our thought only by way of exclusion;

is the same true of them in reality? They can be conceived and can exist

without each other; can they, further, without each other effect all that

we perceive them to accomplish? There are some motions in the material

world which we refer to a voluntary decision of the soul, and some among

our ideas (\_e.g.\_, perceptions of the senses) which we refer to corporeal

phenomena as their causes. If body and soul are substances, how can they

be dependent on each other in certain of their activities, if they are of

opposite natures, how can they affect each other? How can the incorporeal,

unmoved spirit move the animal spirits and receive impulses from them?

The substantiality (reciprocal independence) of body and  $\min$ , and their

interaction (partial reciprocal dependence), are

incompatible, one or

the other is illusory and must be abandoned. The materialists (Hobbes)

sacrifice the independence of mind, the idealists (Berkeley, Leibnitz), the

independence of matter, the occasionalists, the interaction of the two.

This forms the advance of the last beyond Descartes, who either naïvely

maintains that, in spite of the contrariety of material and mental

substances, an exchange of effects takes place between them as an

empirical fact, or, when he realizes the difficulty of the anthropological

problem, --how is the union of the two substances in man possible, --ascribes

the interaction of body and mind, together with the union of the two, to

the power of God, and by this abandonment of the attempt at a natural

explanation, opens up the occasionalistic way of escape. Further, in

his more detailed description of the intercourse between body and mind

Descartes had been guilty of direct violations of his laws of natural

philosophy. If the quantity of motion is declared to be invariable and a

change in its direction is attributed to mechanical causes alone, we must

not ascribe to the soul the power to move the pineal gland, even in the

gentlest way, nor to control the direction of the animal spirits. These

inconsistencies also are removed by the occasionalistic thesis.

The question concerning the substantiality of mind and matter in relation

to God, is involved from the very beginning in this latter problem, "How

is the appearance of interaction between the two to be explained without

detriment to their substantiality in relation to each

other?" The denial

of the reciprocal dependence of matter and spirit leads to sharper

accentuation of their common dependence upon God. Thus occasionalism forms

the transition to the pantheism of Spinoza, Geulincx emphasizing the

non-substantiality of spirits, and Malebranche the non-substantiality of

bodies, while Spinoza combines and intensifies both. And yet history was

not obliging enough to carry out this convenient and agreeable scheme of

development with chronological accuracy, for she had Spinoza complete his

pantheism \_before\_ Malebranche had prepared the way. The relation which was

noted in the case of Bruno and Campanella is here repeated: the earlier

thinker assumes the more advanced position, while the later one seems

backward in comparison; and that which, viewed from the standpoint of the

question itself, may be considered a transition link, is historically to be

taken as a reaction against the excessive prosecution of a line of thought

which, up to a certain point, had been followed by the one who now shrinks

back from its extreme consequences. The course of philosophy takes first a

theological direction in the earlier occasionalists, then a metaphysical

(naturalistic) trend in Spinoza, to renew finally, in Malebranche, the

first of these movements in opposition to the second. The Cartesian school,

as a whole, however, exhibits a tendency toward mysticism, which was

concealed to a greater or less extent by the rationalistic need for clear

concepts, but never entirely suppressed.

Although the real interaction of body and mind be denied, some explanation

must, at least, be given for the appearance of interaction, \_i.e.\_ for the

actual correspondence of bodily and mental phenomena. Occasionalism denotes

the theory of occasional causes. It is not the body that gives rise to

perception, nor the mind that causes the motion of the limbs which it has

determined upon--neither the one nor the other can receive influence from

its fellow or exercise influence upon it; but it is God who, "on the

occasion" of the physical motion (of the air and nerves); produces the

sensation (of sound), and, "at the instance" of the determination of the

will, produces the movement of the arms. The systematic development and

marked influence of this theory, which had already been more or less

clearly announced by the Cartesians Cordemoy and De la Forge,[1] was due to

the talented Arnold Geulincx (1624-69), who was born at Antwerp, taught

in Lyons (1646-58) and Leyden, and became a convert to Calvinism. It

ultimately gained over the majority of the numerous adherents of the

Cartesian philosophy in the Dutch universities, -- Renery (died 1639) and

Regius (van Roy; \_Fundamenta Physicae\_, 1646; Philosophia Naturalis ,

1661) in Utrecht; further, Balthasar Bekker (1634-98; The World

Bewitched\_, 1690), the brave opponent of the belief in angels and devils,

of magic, and of prosecution for witchcraft, -- in the clerical orders in

France and, finally, in Germany.

[Footnote 1: Gerauld de Cordemoy, a Parisian advocate (died 1684,

\_Dissertations Philosophiques\_, 1666), communicated his occasionalistic

views orally to his friends as early as 1658 (cf. L.

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Stein in the Archiv
für Geschichte der Philosophie, vol. i., 1888, p. 56).
Louis de la Forge,
a physician of Saumur, Tractatus de Mente Humana,
1666, previously
published in French; cf. Seyfarth, Gotha, 1887. But the
logician, Johann
Clauberg, professor in Duisburg (1622-65; Opera,
edited by Schalbruch,
1691), is, according to the investigations of Herm.
Müller _(J. Clauberg
und seine Stellung im Cartesianismus , Jena, 1891), to
be stricken from
the list of thinkers who prepared the way for
occasionalism, since in his
discussion of the anthropological problem (corporis et
animae conjunctio )
he merely develops the Cartesian position, and does not
go beyond it. He
employs the expression occasio , it is true, but not in
the sense of the
occasionalists. According to Clauberg the bodily
phenomenon becomes the
stimulus or "occasion" (not for God, but) for the soul
to produce from
itself the corresponding mental phenomenon.]
Geulincx himself, besides two inaugural addresses at
Leyden (as Lector in
1662, Professor Extraordinary in 1665), published the
following treatises:
Quaestiones Quodlibeticae (in the second edition,
1665, entitled
Saturnalia ) with an important introductory discourse;
Logica Fundamentis
Suis Restituta , 1662; Methodus Inveniendi Argumenta
(new edition by
Bontekoe, 1675); and the first part of his Ethics-- De
Virtute et Primis
ejus Proprietatibus, quae vulgo Virtutes Cardinales
Vocantur, Tractatus
Ethicus Primus , 1665. This chief work was issued
complete in all six parts
with the title, [Greek: Gnothi seauton] sive Ethica,
1675, by Bontekoe,
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under the pseudonym Philaretus. The \_Physics\_, 1688, the Metaphysics ,

1691, and the \_Annotata Majora in Cartesii Principia Philosophiae\_, 1691,

were also posthumous publications, from the notes of his pupils. In view of

the rarity of these volumes, and the importance of the philosopher, it is

welcome news that J.P.N. Land has undertaken an edition of the collected

works, in three volumes, of which the first two have already appeared.[1]

The Hague, 1891-92.[2]

[Footnote 1: On vol. i. cf. Eucken, \_Philosophische Monatshefte\_, vol. xxviii., 1892, p,200 seq .]

[Footnote 2: On Geulincx see V. van der Haeghen, Geulincx, Étude sur sa

Vie, sa Philosophie, et ses Ouvrages\_, Ghent, 1886, including a complete

bibliography; and Land in vol. iv. of the \_Archiv für Geschichte der

Philosophie\_, 1890. [English translation, \_Mind\_, vol. xvi. p. 223 \_seq\_.]]

Geulincx bases the \_occasionalistic\_ position on the principle, \_quod

nescis, quomodo fiat, id non facis\_. Unless I know how an event happens, I

am not its cause. Since I have no consciousness how my decision to speak or  $% \left( 1\right) =\left( 1\right) +\left( 1\right)$ 

to walk is followed by the movement of my tongue or limbs, I am not the one

who effects these. Since I am just as ignorant how the sensation in my mind

comes to pass as a sequel to the motion in the senseorgan; since, further,

the body as an unconscious and non-rational being can effect nothing, it is

neither I nor the body that causes the sensation. Both the bodily movement

and the sense-impression are, rather, the effects of a higher power, of the

infinite spirit. The act of my will and the sensestimulus are only \_causae

occasionales for the divine will, in an incomprehensible way, to effect,

in the one case, the execution of the movement of the limbs resolved upon,

and, in the other, the origin of the perception; they are (unsuitable)

instruments, effective only in the hand of God; he brings it to pass that

my will goes out beyond my soul, and that corporeal motion has results in

it. The meaning of this doctrine is misapprehended when it is assumed, -- an

assumption to which the Leibnitzian account of occasionalism may mislead

one, -- that in it the continuity of events, alike in the material and the

psychical world, is interrupted by frequent scattered interferences from

without, and all becoming transformed into a series of disconnected

miracles. An order of nature such as would be destroyed by God's action

does not exist; God brings everything to pass; even the passage of motion

from one body to another is his work. Further, Geulincx expressly says that

God has imposed such \_laws\_ on motion that it harmonizes with the soul's

free volition, of which, however, it is entirely independent (similar

statements occur also in De la Forge). And with this our thinker

appears--as Pfleiderer[1] emphasizes--closely to
approach the

pre-established harmony of Leibnitz. The occasionalistic theory certainly

constitutes the preliminary step to the Leibnitzian; but an essential

difference separates the two. The advance does not consist in the

substitution by Leibnitz of one single miracle at creation for a number of

isolated and continually recurring ones, but (as

Leibnitz himself remarks, in reply to the objection expressed by Father Lami, that a perpetual miracle is no miracle) in the exchange of the immediate causality of God for natural causation. With Geulincx mind and body act on each other, but not by their own power; with Leibnitz the monads do not act on one another, but they act by their own power.[2]--When Geulincx in the same connection advances to the statements that, in view of the limitedness and passivity of finite things, God is the only truly active, because the only independent, being in the world, that all activity is his activity, that the human (finite) spirit is related to the divine (infinite) spirit as the individual body to space in general, viz., as a section of it, so that, by thinking away all limitations from our mind, we find God in us and ourselves in him, it shows how nearly he verges on pantheism. [Footnote 1: Edm. Pfleiderer, Geulincx, als Hauptvertreter der occasionalistischen Metaphysik und Ethik , Tübingen, 1882; the same, Leibniz und Geulincx mit besonderer Beziehung auf ihr Uhrengleichnis, Tübingen, 1884.

Uhrengleichnis\_,
Tübingen, 1884.]

[Footnote 2: See Ed. Zeller, \_Sitzungsberichte der
Berliner Akademie der
Wissenschaften\_, 1884, p. 673 \_seq\_.; Eucken,
\_Philosophische Monatshefte\_,
vol. xix., 1893, p. 525 \_seq\_; vol. xxiii., 1887, p. 587
\_seq\_.]

Geulincx's services to noëtics have been duly recognized by Ed. Grimm (Jena, 1875), although with an excessive approximation to Kant. In this

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field he advances many acute and suggestive thoughts, as the deduction % \left( 1\right) =\left( 1\right) +\left( 1\right) +\left(
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which reappears in Lotze, that the actually existent world of figure and

motion cognized by thought, though the real world, is poorer than the

wonderful world of motley sensuous appearance conjured forth in our minds

on the occasion of the former, that the latter is the more beautiful and

more worthy of a divine author. Further, the conviction, also held by

Lotze, that the fundamental activities of the mind cannot be defined, but

only known through inner experience or immediate consciousness (he

who loves, knows what love is; it is a \_per conscientiam et intimam

experientiam notissima res\_); the praiseworthy attempt
to give a systematic

arrangement, according to their derivation from one another, to the innate

mathematical concepts, which Descartes had simply coordinated (the concept

of surface is gained from the concept of body by abstracting from the third

dimension, thickness--the act of thus abstracting from certain parts of

the content of thought, Geulincx terms \_consideratio\_ in contrast to

\_cogitatio\_, which includes the whole content); and, finally, the still

more important inquiry, whether it is possible for us to reach a knowledge

of things independently of the forms of the understanding, as in pure

thought we strip off the fetters of sense. The possibility of this is

denied; there is no higher faculty of knowledge to act as judge over the

understanding, as the latter over the sensibility, and even the wisest

man cannot free himself from the forms of thought (categories, modi

cogitandi\_). And yet the discussion of the question is

not useless: the

reason should examine into the unknowable as well as the knowable; it is

only in this way that we learn that it is unknowable. As the highest forms

of thought Geulincx names subject (the empty concept of an existent, ens

or \_quod est\_) and predicate \_(modus entis\_), and derives them from two

fundamental activities of the mind, a combining function (simulsumtio,

totatio\_) and an abstracting function (one which removes
the nota

subjecti\_). Substance and accident, substantive and adjective, are

expressions for subjective processes of thought and hence do not hold

of things in themselves. With reference to the importance, nay, to the

indispensability, of linguistic signs in the use of the understanding, the

science of the forms of thought is briefly termed grammar.

The principle \_ubi nihil vales, ibi nihil velis\_, forms the connection

between the occasionalistic metaphysics and ethics, the latter deducing the

practical consequences of the former. Where thou canst do nothing, there

will nothing. Since we can effect nothing in the material world, to which

we are related merely as spectators, we ought also not to seek in it the

motives and objects of our actions. God, does not require works, but

dispositions only, for the result of our volition is beyond our power. Our

moral vocation, then, consists in renunciation of the world and retirement

into ourselves, and in patient faithfulness at the post assigned to us.

Virtue is \_amor dei ac rationis\_, self-renouncing,
active, obedient love

to God and to the reason as the image and law of God in

us. The cardinal virtues are diligentia , sedulous listening for the commands of the reason; obedientia , the execution of these justitia , the conforming of the whole life to what is perceived to be right; finally, humilitas, the recognition of our impotency and self-renunciation ( inspectio and \_despectio\_, or \_derelictio, neglectus, contemptus, incuria sui ). The highest of these is humility, pious submission to the divine order of things; its condition, the self-knowledge commended in the title of the Ethics; the primal evil, self-love ( Philautia -ipsissimum peccatum ). Man is unhappy because he seeks happiness. Happiness is like our shadows: it shuns us when we pursue it, it follows us when we flee from it. The joys which spring from virtue are an adornment of it, not an enticement to it; they are its result, not its aim. The ethics of Geulincx, which we cannot further trace out here, surprises one by its approximation to the views of Spinoza and of Kant. With the former it has in common the principle of love toward God, as well as numerous details; with the latter, the absoluteness of the moral law ( in rebus moralibus absolute praecipit ratio aut vetat, nulla interposita conditione\_); with both the depreciation of sympathy, on the ground that it is a concealed egoistic motive. The denial of substantiality to individual things, brought in by the

brought in by the occasionalists, is completed by Spinoza, who boldly and logically proclaims pantheism on the basis of Cartesianism and gives to the divine All-one a naturalistic instead of a theological character.

## %2. Spinoza.%

Benedictus (originally Baruch) de Spinoza sprang from a Jewish family of

Portugal or Spain, which had fled to Holland to escape persecution at home.

He was born in Amsterdam in 1632; taught by the Rabbin Morteira, and,

in Latin, by Van den Ende, a free-thinking physician who had enjoyed a

philological training; and expelled by anathema from the Jewish communion,

1656, on account of heretical views. During the next four years he found

refuge at a friend's house in the country near Amsterdam, after which he

lived in Rhynsburg, and from 1664 in Voorburg, moving thence, in 1669, to

The Hague, where he died in 1677. Spinoza lived in retirement and had few

wants; he supported himself by grinding optical glasses; and, in 1673,

declined the professorship at Heidelberg offered him by Karl Ludwig, the

Elector Palatine, because of his love of quiet, and on account of the

uncertainty of the freedom of thought which the Elector had assured him.

Spinoza himself made but two treatises public: his dictations on the first

and second parts of Descartes's \_Principia Philosophiae , which had been

composed for a private pupil, with an appendix, Cogitata Metaphysica,

1663, and the \_Tractatus Theologico-Politicus\_, published anonymously

in 1670, in defense of liberty of thought and the right to unprejudiced

criticism of the biblical writings. The principles expressed in the latter

work were condemned by all parties as sacrilegious and atheistic, and

awakened concern even in the minds of his friends. When, in 1675, Spinoza

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journeyed to Amsterdam with the intention of giving his
chief work, the
Ethics, to the press, the clergy and the followers of
Descartes applied
to the government to forbid its issue. Soon after
Spinoza's death it was
published in the Opera Posthuma , 1677, which were
issued under the care
of Hermann Schuller,[1] with a preface by Spinoza's
friend, the physician
Ludwig Meyer, and which contained, besides the chief
work, three incomplete
treatises ( Tractatus Politicus, Tractatus de
Intellectus Emendatione,
Compendium Grammatices Linguae Hebraeae ) and a
collection of Letters by
and to Spinoza. The Ethica Ordine Geometrico
Demonstrata , in five parts,
treats (1) of God, (2) of the nature and origin of the
mind, (3) of the
nature and origin of the emotions, (4) of human bondage
or the strength
of the passions, (5) of the power of the reason or human
freedom. It has
become known within recent times that Spinoza made a
very early sketch
of the system developed in the Ethics , the Tractatus
Brevis de Deo et
Homine ejusque Felicitate, of which a Dutch translation
in two copies was
discovered, though not the original Latin text. This
treatise was published
by Böhmer, 1852, in excerpts, and complete by Van
Vloten, 1862, and by
Schaarschmidt, 1869. It was not until our own century,
and after Jacobi's
Ueber die Lehre des Spinoza in Briefen an Moses
Mendelssohn (1785)
had aroused the long slumbering interest in this much
misunderstood
philosopher, who has been oftener despised than studied,
that complete
editions of his works were prepared, by Paulus 1802-03;
Gfrörer, 1830;
Bruder, 1843-46; Ginsberg (in Kirchmann's
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Philosophische Bibliothek ,
4 vols.), 1875-82; and Van Vloten and Land,[2] 2 vols.,
1882-83. B.
Auerbach has worked Spinoza's life into a romantic
novel, Spinoza, ein
Denkerleben , 1837; 2d ed., 1855 [English translation by
C.T. Brooks,
1882.1
[Footnote 1: See L. Stein in the Archiv für Geschichte
der Philosophie,
vol. i., 1888, p. 554 seq.]
[Footnote 2: For the literature on Spinoza the reader is
referred to
Ueberweg and to Van der Linde's B. Spinoza,
Bibliografie , 1871; while
among recent works we shall mention only Camerer's Die
Lehre Spinozas,
Stuttgart, 1877. An English translation of The Chief
Works of Spinoza has
been given by Elwes, 1883-84; a translation of the
Ethics by White,
1883; and one of selections from the Ethics, with
notes, by Fullerton in
Sneath's Modern Philosophers, 1892. Among the various
works on Spinoza, the
reader may be referred to Pollock's Spinoza, His Life
and Times_, 1880
(with bibliography to same year); Martineau's Study of
Spinoza , 1883; and
J. Caird's _Spinoza_, Blackwood's Philosophical
Classics, 1888.--TR.]
We shall consider Spinoza's system as a completed whole
as it is given in
the Ethics; for although it is interesting for the
investigator to trace
out the development of his thinking by comparing this
chief work with its
forerunner (that Tractatus Brevis "concerning God,
man, and the happiness
of the latter," whose dialogistical portions we may
surmise to have been
the earliest sketch of the Spinozistic position, and
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which was followed by
the Tractatus de Intellectus Emendatione ) such a
procedure is not equally
valuable for the student. In regard to Spinoza's
relations to other
thinkers it cannot be doubted, since Freudenthal's[1]
proof, that he was
dependent to a large degree on the predominant
philosophy of the schools,
i.e. on the later Scholasticism (Suarez[2]),
especially on its Protestant
side (Jacob Martini, Combachius, Scheibler,
Burgersdijck, Heereboord);
Descartes, it is true, felt the same influence.
Joël,[3]: Schaarschmidt,
Sigwart, [4] R. Avenarius, [5] and Böhmer [6] = have
advanced the view that
the sources of Spinoza's philosophy are not to be sought
exclusively in
Cartesianism, but rather that essential elements were
taken from the
Cabala, from the Jewish Scholasticism (Maimonides, 1190;
Gersonides, died
1344; Chasdai Crescas, 1410), and from Giordano Bruno.
In opposition
to this Kuno Fischer has defended, and in the main
successfully, the
proposition that Spinoza reached, and must have reached,
his fundamental
pantheism by his own reflection as a development of
Descartes's principles.
The traces of his early Talmudic education, which have
been noticed in
Spinoza's works, prove no dependence of his leading
ideas on Jewish
theology. His pantheism is distinguished from that of
the Cabalists by
its rejection of the doctrine of emanation, and from
Bruno's, which
nevertheless may have influenced him, by its anti-
teleological character.
When with Greek philosophers, Jewish theologians, and
the Apostle Paul
he teaches the immanence of God (Epist. 21), when with
Maimonides and
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Crescas he teaches love to God as the principal of morality, and with the

latter of these, determinism also, it is not a necessary consequence that

he derived these theories from them. That which most of all separates him

from the mediaeval scholastics of his own people, is his rationalistic

conviction that God can be known. His agreement with them comes out most

clearly in the \_Tractatus Theologico-Politicus\_. But even here it holds

only in regard to undertaking a general criticism of the Scriptures and to

their figurative interpretation, while, on the other hand, the demand for

the basis of the investigation as a whole, were foreign to mediaeval

Judaism--in fact, entirely modern and original. This object was to make

science independent of religion, whose records and doctrines are to edify

the mind and to improve the character, not to instruct the understanding.

"Spinoza could not have learned the complete separation of religion and

science from Jewish literature; this was a tendency which sprang from the

spirit of his own time" (Windelband, \_Geschichte der neueren Philosophie\_, vol. i. p. 194).

[Footnote 1: J. Freudenthal, \_Spinoza und die Scholastik in the

\_Philosophische Aufsätze, Zeller zum 50-Jährigen Doktorjubiläum gewidmet\_,

Leipsic, 1887, p. 85 \_seq\_. Freudenthal's proof covers the \_Cogitata

Metaphysica\_ and many of the principal propositions of
the \_Ethics\_.]

[Footnote 2: The Spanish Jesuit, Francis Suarez, lived 1548-1617. Works,

Venice, 1714 Cf. Karl Werner, \_Suarez und die Scholastik der letzten

Jahrhunderte , Regensburg, 1861.]

[Footnote 3: M. Joël, \_Don Chasdai Crescas' religions-philosophische Lehren

in ihrem geschichtlichen Einfluss\_, 1866; \_Spinozas Theo.-pel. Traktat

auf seine Quellen geprüft\_, 1870; \_Zur Genesis der Lehre Spinozas mit

besonderer Berücksichtigung des kurzen Traktats , 1871.]

[Footnote 4: \_Spinozas neu entdeckter Traktat eläutert u. s. w ., 1866;

\_Spinozas kurzer Traktat übersetzt mit Einleitungen und Erläuterungen\_, 1870.]

[Footnote 5: \_Ueber die beiden ersten Phasen des Spinozistischen

Pantheismus und das Verhältniss der zweiten zur dritten Phase\_, 1868.]

[Footnote 6: \_Spinozana\_ in Fichte's \_Zeitschrift für Philosophie\_ vols.

xxxvi., xlii., lvii., 1860-70.]

The logical presuppositions of Spinoza's philosophy lie in the fundamental

ideas of Descartes, which Spinoza accentuates, transforms, and adopts.

Three pairs of thoughts captivate him and incite him to think them through:

first, the rationalistic belief in the power of the human spirit to possess

itself of the truth by pure thought, together with confidence in the

omnipotence of the mathematical method; second, the concept of substance,

together with the dualism of extension and thought; finally, the

fundamental mechanical position, together with the impossibility

of interaction between matter and spirit, held in common with the

occasionalists, but reached independently of them. Whatever new elements

are added (\_e. g\_., the transformation of the Deity from a mere aid to  $\ \ \,$ 

knowledge into its most important, nay, its only object; as, also, the

enthusiastic, directly mystical devotion to the allembracing world-ground)

are of an essentially emotional nature, and to be referred less to

historical influences than to the individuality of the thinker. The

divergences from his predecessors, however, especially the extension of

mechanism to mental phenomena and the denial of the freedom of the will,

inseparable from this, result simply from the more consistent application

of Cartesian principles. Spinoza is not an inventive, impulsive spirit,

like Descartes and Leibnitz, but a systematic one; his strength does not

lie in brilliant inspirations, but in the power of resolutely thinking a

thing through; not in flashes of thought, but in strictly closed circles of

thought. He develops, but with genius, and to the end. Nevertheless this

consecutiveness of Spinoza, the praises of which have been unceasingly sung

by generations since his day, has its limits. It holds for the unwavering

development of certain principles derived from Descartes, but not with

equal strictness for the inter-connection of the several lines of thought

followed out separately. His very custom of developing a principle straight

on to its ultimate consequences, without regard to the needs of the heart

or to logical demands from other directions, make it impossible for the

results of the various lines of thought to be themselves in harmony; his

vertical consistency prevents horizontal consistency. If

the original

tendencies come into conflict (the consciously held theoretical principles

into conflict with one another, or with hidden aesthetic or moral

principles), either one gains the victory over the other or both insist

on their claims; thus we have inconsistencies in the one case, and

contradictions in the other (examples of which have been shown by Volkelt

in his maiden work, \_Pantheismus und Individualismus im Systeme Spinozas\_,

1872). Science demands unified comprehension of the given, and seeks the

smallest number of principles possible; but her concepts prove too narrow

vessels for the rich plenitude of reality. He who asks from philosophy more

than mere special inquiries finds himself confronted by two possibilities:

first, starting from one standpoint, or a few such, he may follow a direct

course without looking to right or left, at the risk that in his

thought-calculus great spheres of life will be wholly left out of view, or,

at least, will not receive due consideration; or, second, beginning from

many points of departure and ascending along converging lines, he may seek

a unifying conclusion. In Spinoza we possess the most brilliant example of

the former one-sided, logically consecutive power of (also, no doubt,

violence in) thought, while Leibnitz furnishes the type of the many-sided,

harmonistic thinking. The fact that even the rigorous Spinoza is not

infrequently forced out of the strict line of consistency, proves that the

man was more many-sided than the thinker would have allowed himself to be.

To begin with the formal side of Spinozism: the

rationalism of Descartes is heightened by Spinoza into the imposing confidence that absolutely everything is cognizable by the reason, that the intellect is able by its pure concepts and intuitions entirely to exhaust the multiform world of reality, to follow it with its light into its last refuge.[1] Spinoza is just as much in earnest in regard to the typical character of mathematics. Descartes (with the exception of an example asked for in the second of the Objections, and given as an appendix to the Meditations , in which he endeavors to demonstrate the existence of God and the distinction of body and spirit on the synthetic Euclidean method), had availed himself of the analytic form of presentation, on the ground that, though less cogent, it is more suited for instruction since it shows the way by which the matter has been discovered. Spinoza, on the other hand, rigorously carried out the geometrical method, even in externals. He begins with definitions, adds to these axioms (or postulates), follows with propositions or theorems as the chief thing, finally with demonstrations or proofs, which derive the later propositions from the earlier, and these in turn from the self-evident axioms. To these four principal parts are further added as less essential, deductions or corollaries immediately resulting from the theorems, and the more detailed expositions of the demonstrations or scholia. Besides these, some longer discussions are given in the form of remarks, introductions,

[Footnote 1: Heussler's objections (\_Der Rationalismus des 17

and appendices.

\_Jahrhunderts\_, 1885, pp. 82-85) to this

characterization of Kuno Fischer's

are not convincing. The question is not so much about a principle

demonstrable by definite citations as about an unconscious motive in

Spinoza's thinking. Fischer's views on this point seem to us correct.

Spinoza's mode of thinking is, in fact, saturated with this strong

confidence in the omnipotence of the reason and the rational constitution

of true reality.]

If everything is to be cognizable through mathematics, then everything must

take place necessarily; even the thoughts, resolutions, and actions of man

cannot be free in the sense that they might have happened otherwise. Thus

there is an evident methodological motive at work for the extension

of mechanism to all becoming, even spiritual becoming. But there are

metaphysical reasons also. Descartes had naïvely solved the anthropological

problem by the answer that the interaction of mind and body is

incomprehensible but actual. The occasionalists had hesitatingly questioned

these conclusions a little, the incomprehensibility as well as the

actuality, only at last to leave them intact. For the explanation that

there is a real influence of body on mind and \_vice versa , though not

an immediate but an occasional one, one mediated by the divine will, is

scarcely more than a confession that the matter is inexplicable. Spinoza,

who admits neither the incognizability of anything real, nor any

supernatural interferences, roundly denies both. There is no intercourse

between body and soul; yet that which is erroneously

considered such

is both actually present and explicable. The assumed interaction is as

unnecessary as it is impossible. Body and soul do not need to act on one

another, because they are not two in kind at all, but constitute one being

which may be looked at from two different sides. This is called body when

considered under its attribute of extension, and spirit when considered

under its attribute of thought. It is quite impossible for two substances

to affect each other, because by their reciprocal influence, nay, by their

very duality, they would lose their independence, and, with this, their

substantiality. There is no plurality of substances, but only one, the

infinite, the divine substance. Here we reach the center of the system.

There is but one becoming and but one independent, substantial being.

Material and spiritual becoming form merely the two sides of one and the

same necessary world-process; particular extended beings
and particular

thinking beings are nothing but the changeable and transitory states

\_(modi)\_ of the enduring, eternal, unified world-ground.
"Necessity in

becoming and unity of being," mechanism and pantheism-these are the

controlling conceptions in Spinoza's doctrine.

Multiplicity, the

self-dependence of particular things, free choice, ends, development, all

this is illusion and error.

%(a) Substance, Attributes, and Modes%.--There is but
one substance, and

this is infinite (I. \_prop\_. 10, \_schol; prop\_. 14, \_cor\_. 1). Why, then,

only one and why infinite? With Spinoza as with Descartes independence is

the essence of substantiality. This is expressed in the third definition:

"By substance I understand that which is in itself and is conceived by

means of itself, \_i.e.\_, that the conception of which can be formed without

the aid of the conception of any other thing." \_Per substantiam intelligo

id, quod in se est et per se concipitur; hoc est id, cujus conceptus

non indiget conceptu alterius rei, a quo formari debeat. An absolutely

self-dependent being can neither be limited (since, in respect to its

limits, it would be dependent on the limiting being), nor occur more than

once in the world. Infinity follows from its self-dependence, and its

uniqueness from its infinity.

Substance is the being which is dependent on nothing and on which

everything depends; which, itself uncaused, effects all else; which

presupposes nothing, but itself constitutes the presupposition of all that

is: it is pure being, primal being, the cause of itself and of all. Thus in

Spinoza the being which is without presuppositions is brought into the most

intimate relation with the fullness of multiform existence, not coldly and

abstractly exalted above it, as by the ancient Eleatics. Substance is the

being in (not above) things, that in them which constitutes their reality,

which supports and produces them. As the cause of all things Spinoza calls

it God, although he is conscious that he understands by the term something

quite different from the Christians. God does not mean for him a

transcendent, personal spirit, but only the \_ens absolute infinitum (def.

sexta) , the essential heart of things: Deus sive

## substantia .

How do things proceed from God? Neither by creation nor by emanation. He does not put them forth from himself, they do not tear themselves free from him, but they follow out of the necessary nature of God, as it follows from the nature of the triangle that the sum of its angles is equal to two right angles (I. prop . 17, schol .). They do not come out from him, but remain in him; just this fact that they are in another, in God, constitutes their lack of self-dependence (I. prop . 18, dem.: nulla res, quae extra Deum in se sit ). God is their inner, indwelling cause ( causa immanens, non vero transiens\_.--I. \_prop\_. 18), is not a transcendent creator, but natura naturans , over against the sum of finite beings, natura naturata (I. \_prop\_. 29, \_schol\_.): \_Deus sive natura . Since nothing exists out of God, his actions do not follow from external necessity, are not constrained, but he is free cause, free in the sense that he does nothing except that toward which his own nature impels him, that he acts in accordance with the laws of his being ( def. septima: ea res libera dicitur, quae ex sola suae naturae necessitate existit et a se sola ad agendum determinatur; Epist . 26). This inner necessitation is so little a defect that its direct opposite, undetermined choice and inconstancy, must rather be excluded from God as an imperfection. Freedom and (inner) necessity are identical; and antithetical, on the one side, to undetermined choice and, on the other, to (external) compulsion. Action in

view of ends must also be denied of the infinite; to

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think of God as acting
in order to the good is to make him dependent on
something external to him
(an aim) and lacking in that which is to be attained by
the action. With
God the ground of his action is the same as the ground
of his existence;
God's power and his essence coincide (I. prop. 34:
Dei potentia est ipsa
ipsius essentia ). He is the cause of himself ( def.
prima: per causam sui
intelligo id, cujus essentia involvit existentiam, sive
id, cujus natura
non potest concipi nisi existens ); it would be a
contradiction to hold
that being was not, that God, or substance, did not
exist; he cannot be
thought otherwise than as existing; his concept includes
his existence. To
be self-caused means to exist necessarily (I. prop .
7). The same thing
is denoted by the predicate eternal, which, according to
the eighth
definition, denotes "existence itself, in so far as it
is conceived to
follow necessarily from the mere definition of the
eternal thing."
The infinite substance stands related to finite,
individual things, not
only as the independent to the dependent, as the cause
to the caused, as
the one to the many, and the whole to the parts, but
also as the universal
to the particular, the indeterminate to the determinate.
From infinite
being as pure affirmation (I. prop. 8, schol. I:
absoluta affirmatio )
everything which contains a limitation or negation, and
this includes every
particular determination, must be kept at a distance:
determinatio negatio
est (Epist . 50 and 41: a determination denotes nothing
positive, but a
deprivation, a lack of existence; relates not to the
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being but to the

non-being of the thing). A determination states that which distinguishes

one thing from another, hence what it is \_not\_, expresses a limitation of

it. Consequently God, who is free from every negation and limitation, is to

be conceived as the absolutely indeterminate. The results thus far reached

run: \_Substantia una infinita--Deus sive natura--causa sui (aeterna) et

rerum (immanens)--libera necessitas--non determinata\_.
Or more briefly:

Substance = God = nature. The equation of God and substance had been

announced by Descartes, but not adhered to, while Bruno had approached the

equation of God and nature--Spinoza decisively completes both and combines them.

A further remark may be added concerning the relation of God and the world.

In calling the infinite at once the permanent essence of things and their

producing cause, Spinoza raises a demand which it is not easy to fulfill,

the demand to think the existence of things in substance as a following

from substance, and their procession from God as a remaining in him. He

refers us to mathematics: the things which make up the world are related to

God as the properties of a geometrical figure to its concepts, as theorems

to the axiom, as the deduction to the principle, which from eternity

contains all that follows from it and retains this even while putting

it forth. It cannot be doubted that such a view of causality contains

error, -- it has been characterized as a confusion of \_ratio\_ and \_causa\_,

of logical ground and real cause, -- but it is just as certain that Spinoza

committed it. He not only compares the dependence of the effect on its

cause to the dependence of a derivative principle on that from which it is

derived, but fully equates the two; he thinks that in logico-mathematical

"consequences" he has grasped the essence of real "effects": for him the

type of all legality, as also of real becoming, was the necessity which

governs the sequence of mathematical truths, and which, on the one hand, is

even and still, needing no special exertion of volitional energy, while, on

the other, it is rigid and unyielding, exalted above all choice. Philosophy

had sought the assistance of mathematics because of the clearness and

certainty which distinguish the conclusions of the latter, and which she

wished to obtain for her own. In excess of zeal she was not content with

striving after this ideal of indefectible certitude, but, forgetting the

diversity of the two fields, strove to imitate other qualities which

are not transferable; instead of learning from mathematics she became subservient to it.

Substance does not affect us by its mere existence, but through an

\_Attribute\_. By attribute is meant, according to the fourth definition,

"that which the understanding perceives of substance as constituting the

essence of it" \_(quod intellectus de substantia
percipit, tanquam ejusdem

essentiam constituens)\_. The more reality a substance contains, the more

attributes it has; consequently infinite substance possesses an infinite

number, each of which gives expression to its essence, but of which two

only fall within our knowledge. Among the innumerable

divine attributes

the human mind knows those only which it finds in itself, thought and

extension. Although man beholds God only as thinking and extended

substance, he yet has a clear and complete; an adequate-idea of God. Since

each of the two attributes is conceived without the other, hence in itself

(\_per se\_), they are distinct from each other realiter, and independent.

God is absolutely infinite, the attributes only in their kind (\_in suo genere ).

How can the indeterminate possess properties? Are the attributes merely

ascribed to substance by the understanding, or do they possess reality

apart from the knowing subject? This question has given rise to much

debate. According to Hegel and Ed. Erdmann the attributes are something

external to substance, something brought into it by the understanding,

forms of knowledge present in the beholder alone; substance itself is

neither extended nor cogitative, but merely appears to the understanding

under these determinations, without which the latter would be unable to

cognize it. This "formalistic" interpretation, which, relying on a passage

in a letter to De Vries (\_Epist\_. 27), explains the attributes as mere

modes of intellectual apprehension, numbers Kuno Fischer among its

opponents. As the one party holds to the first half of the definition, the

other places the emphasis on the second half ("that which the

\_understanding\_ perceives--as constituting the \_essence\_
of substance").

The attributes are more than mere modes of representation—they are real

properties, which substance possesses even apart from an observer, nay, in

which it consists; in Spinoza, moreover, "must be conceived" is the

equivalent of "to be." Although this latter "realistic" party undoubtedly

has the advantage over the former, which reads into Spinoza a subjectivism

foreign to his system, they ought not to forget that the difference in

interpretation has for its basis a conflict among the motives which control

Spinoza's thinking. The reference of the attributes to the understanding,

given in the definition, is not without significance. It sprang from the

wish not to mar the indeterminateness of the absolute by the opposition of

the attributes, while, on the other hand, an equally pressing need for the

conservation of the immanence of substance forbade a bold transfer of the

attributes to the observer. The real opinion of Spinoza is neither so

clear and free from contradictions, nor so one-sided, as that which his

interpreters ascribe to him. Fischer's further interpretation of the

attributes of God as his "powers" is tenable, so long as by causa and

\_potentia\_ we understand nothing more than the irresistible, but

non-kinetic, force with which an original truth establishes or effects

those which follow from it.

As the dualism of extension and thought is reduced from a substantial to

an attributive distinction, so individual bodies and minds, motions and

thoughts, are degraded a stage further. Individual things lack independence

of every sort. The individual is, as a determinate finite thing, burdened

with negation and limitation, for every determination

includes a negation;

that which is truly real in the individual is God.

Finite things are

\_modi\_ of the infinite substance, mere states, variable states, of God. By

themselves they are nothing, since out of God nothing exists. They possess

existence only in so far as they are conceived in their connection with the

infinite, that is, as transitory forms of the unchangeable substance. They

are not in themselves, but in another, in God, and are conceived only

in God. They are mere affections of the divine attributes, and must be considered as such.

To the two attributes correspond two classes of modes. The most important

modifications of extension are rest and motion. Among the modes of thought

are understanding and will. These belong in the sphere of determinate and

transitory being and do not hold of the \_natura
naturans : God is exalted

above all modality, above will and understanding, as above motion and rest.

We must not assert of the \_natura naturata\_ (the world as the sum of all

modes), as of the \_natura naturans\_, that its essence involves existence

(I. \_prop\_. 24): we can conceive finite things as non-existent, as well as

existent (\_Epist\_. 29). This constitutes their
"contingency," which must

by no means be interpreted as lawlessness. On the contrary, all that takes

place in the world is most rigorously determined; every individual, finite,

determinate thing and event is determined to its existence and action by

another similarly finite and determinate thing or event, and this cause is,

in turn, determined in its existence and action by a further finite mode,

and so on to infinity (I. \_prop\_. 28). Because of this endlessness in the

series there is no first or ultimate cause in the phenomenal world; all

finite causes are second causes; the primary cause lies within the sphere

of the infinite and is God himself. The modes are all subject to the

constraint of an unbroken and endless nexus of efficient causes, which

leaves room neither for chance, nor choice, nor ends. Nothing can be or

happen otherwise than as it is and happens (I. \_prop\_. 29, 33).

The causal chain appears in two forms: a mode of extension has its

producing ground in a second mode of extension; a mode of thought can be

caused only by another mode of thought--each individual thing is determined

by one of its own kind. The two series proceed side by side, without a

member of either ever being able to interfere in the other or to effect

anything in it--a motion can never produce anything but other motions, an  $\ensuremath{\mathsf{N}}$ 

idea can result only in other ideas; the body can never determine the mind

to an idea, nor the soul the body to a movement. Since, however, extension

and thought are not two substances, but attributes of one substance,

this apparently double causal nexus of two series proceeding in exact

correspondence is, in reality, but a single one. (III.
 prop\_. 2, \_schol\_.)

viewed from different sides. That which represents a chain of motions when

seen from the side of extension, bears the aspect of a series of ideas from

the side of thought. \_Modus extensionis et idea illius modi una cademque

est res, sed duobus modis expressa\_ (II. \_prop\_. 7,
 schol .; cf. III.

\_prop\_. 2, \_schol\_.). The soul is nothing but the idea of an actual body, body or motion nothing but the object or event in the

sphere of extended

actuality corresponding to an idea. No idea exists without something

corporeal corresponding to it, no body, without at the same time existing

as idea, or being conceived; in other words, everything is both body and

spirit, all things are animated (II. \_prop\_. 13,
 schol\_.). Thus the famous

proposition results; \_Ordo et connexio idearum idem est ac ordo et connexio

rerum (sive corporum; II. prop\_. 7), and in application
to man, "the order

of the actions and passions of our body is simultaneous in nature with the

order of the actions and passions of the mind" (III. \_prop. 2, schol\_.).

The attempt to solve the problem of the relation between the material and

the mental worlds by asserting their thoroughgoing correspondence and

substantial identity, was philosophically justifiable and important,

though many evident objections obtrude themselves upon us. The required

assumption, that there is a mental event corresponding to \_every\_ bodily

one, and \_vice versa\_, meets with involuntary and easily supported

opposition, which Spinoza did nothing to remove.

Similarly he omitted

to explain how body is related to motion, mind to ideas, and both to

actuality. The ascription of a materialistic tendency to Spinoza is not

without foundation. Corporeality and reality appear well-nigh identical for

him,--the expressions \_corpora\_ and \_res\_ are used synonymously,--so that

there remains for minds and ideas only an existence as reflections of

the real in the sphere of [an] ideality (whose degree of actuality it is

difficult to determine). Moreover, individualistic impulses have been

pointed out, which, in part, conflict with the monism which he consciously

follows, and, in part, subserve its interests. An example of this is given

in the relation of mind and idea: Spinoza treats the soul as a sum of

ideas, as consisting in them. An (at least apparently substantial) bond

among ideas, an ego, which possesses them, does not exist for him: the

Cartesian \_cogito\_ has become an impersonal \_cogitatur\_
or a \_Deus

cogitat\_. In order to the unique substantiality of the
infinite, the

substantiality of individual spirits must disappear. That which argues for

the latter is their I-ness (\_Ichheit\_), the unity of self-consciousness;

it is destroyed, if the mind is a congeries of ideas, a composite of them.

Thus in order to relieve itself from the self-dependence of the individual

mind, monism allies itself with a spiritual atomism, the most extreme which

can be conceived. The mind is resolved into a mass of individual ideas.

Mention may be made in passing, also, of a strange conception, which

is somewhat out of harmony with the rest of the system, and of which,

moreover, little use is made. This is the conception of infinite modes.

As such are cited, \_facies totius mundi, motus et quies, intellectus

absolute infinitus\_. Kuno Fischer's interpretation of this difficult

conception may be accepted. It denotes, according to him, the connected sum

of the modes, the itself non-finite sum total of the finite--the universe

meaning the totality of individual things in general (without reference to

their nature as extended or cogitative); rest and motion, the totality of

material being; the absolutely infinite understanding, the totality of

spiritual being or the ideas. Individual spirits together constitute, as

it were, the infinite intellect; our mind is a part of the divine

understanding, yet not in such a sense that the whole consists of the

parts, but that the part exists only through the whole. When we say, the

human mind perceives this or that, it is equivalent to saying that God--not

in so far as he is infinite, but as he expresses himself in this human

mind and constitutes its essence--has this or that idea
(II. \_prop\_. II,
\_coroll\_).

The discussion of these three fundamental concepts exhausts all the chief

points in Spinoza's doctrine of God. Passing over his doctrine of body (II.

between \_prop\_. 13 and \_prop\_. 14) we turn at once to his discussion of mind and man.

%(b) Anthropology: Cognition and the Passions.%--Each thing is at once mind

and body, representation and that which is represented, idea and ideate

(object). Body and soul are the same being, only considered under different

attributes. The human mind is the idea of the human body; it cognizes

itself in perceiving the affections of its body; it represents all that

takes place in the body, though not all adequately. As man's body is

composed of very many bodies, so his soul is composed of very many ideas.

To judge of the relation of the human mind to the mind

of lower beings, we

must consider the superiority of man's body to other bodies; the more

complex a body is, and the greater the variety of the affections of

which it is capable, the better and more adapted for adequate cognition,

the accompanying mind.--A result of the identity of soul and body is

that the acts of our will are not free (\_Epist\_. 62): they are, in fact,

determinations of our body, only considered under the attribute of thought,

and no more free than this from the constraint of the causal law (III.

\_prop\_. 2, \_schol\_.).--Since the mind does nothing
without at the same time

knowing that it does it--since, in other words, its activity is a conscious

activity, it is not merely \_idea corporis humani\_, but also \_idea ideae

corporis\_ or \_idea mentis\_.

All adherents of the Eleatic separation of the one pure being from the

manifold and changing world of appearance are compelled to make a

like distinction between two kinds and two organs of \_knowledge\_. The

representation of the empirical manifold of separately existing individual

things, together with the organ thereof, Spinoza terms \_imaginatio\_; the

faculty of cognizing the true reality, the one, all-embracing substance, he

calls \_intellectus. Imaginatio\_ (imagination, sensuous representation)

is the faculty of inadequate, confused ideas, among which are included

abstract conceptions, as well as sensations and memory-images. The objects

of perception are the affections of our body; and our perceptions,

therefore, are not clear and distinct, because we are not completely

acquainted with their causes. In the merely perceptual stage, the mind

gains only a confused and mutilated idea of external objects, of the body,

and of itself; it is unable to separate that in the perception (e.g.,

heat) which is due to the external body from that which is due to its own

body. An inadequate idea, however, is not in itself an error; it becomes

such only when, unconscious of its defectiveness, we take it for complete

and true. Prominent examples of erroneous ideas are furnished by general

concepts, by the idea of ends, and the idea of the freedom of the will. The

more general and abstract an idea, the more inadequate and indistinct it

becomes; and this shows the lack of value in generic concepts, which are

formed by the omission of differences. All cognition which is carried on by

universals and their symbols, words, yields opinion and imagination merely

instead of truth. Quite as valueless and harmful is the idea of ends, with

its accompaniments. We think that nature has typical forms hovering before

it, which it is seeking to actualize in things; when this intention is

apparently fulfilled we speak of things as perfect and beautiful; when it

fails, of imperfect and ugly things. Such concepts of value belong in the

sphere of fictions. The same is true of the idea of the freedom of the

will, which depends on our ignorance of that which constrains us. Apart

from the consideration that "the will," the general conception of which

comes under the rubric of unreal abstractions, is in fact merely the sum of

the particular volitions, the illusion of freedom, \_e.g.\_, that we will

and act without a cause, arises from the fact that we

are conscious of our action (and also of its proximate motives), but not of its (remoter) determining causes. Thus the thirsty child believes it desires its milk of its own free will, and the timid one, that it freely chooses to run away (\_Ethica, III. prop\_. 2, \_schol\_.; I. \_app\_.) If the falling stone were conscious, it would, likewise, consider itself free, and its fall the

result of an undetermined decision.

Two degrees are to be distinguished in the true or adequate knowledge of the intellect: rational knowledge attained through inference, and intuitive, self-evident knowledge; the latter has principles for its object, the former that which follows from them. Instead of operating with abstract concepts the reason uses common notions, notiones communes . Genera do not exist, but, no doubt, something common to all things. All bodies agree in being extended; all minds and ideas in being modes of thought; all beings whatever in the fact that they are modes of the divine substance and its attributes; "that which is common to all things, and which is equally in the part and in the whole, cannot but be adequately conceived." The ideas of extension, of thought, and of the eternal and infinite essence of God are adequate ideas. The adequate idea of each individual actual object involves the idea of God, since it can neither exist nor be conceived apart from God, and "all ideas, in so far as they are referred to God, are true." The ideas of substance and of the attributes are conceived through themselves, or immediately (intuitively)

cognized; they are underivative, original, self-evident ideas.

There are thus three kinds, degrees, or faculties of cognition--sensuous or

imaginative representation, reason, and immediate intuition. Knowledge of

the second and third degrees is necessarily true, and our only means

of distinguishing the true from the false. As light reveals itself and

darkness, so the truth is the criterion of itself and of error. Every

truth is accompanied by certainty, and is its own witness (II. \_prop\_. 43,

\_schol\_.).--Adequate knowledge does not consider things as individuals,

but in their necessary connection and as eternal sequences from the

world-ground. The reason perceives things under the form of eternity: \_sub

specie aeternitatis\_ (II. \_prop\_. 44, \_cor\_. 2).

In his theory of the \_emotions\_, Spinoza is more dependent on Descartes

than anywhere else; but even here he is guided by a successful endeavor

after greater rigor and simplicity. He holds his predecessor's false

concept of freedom responsible for the failure of his very acute inquiry.

All previous writers on the passions have either derided, or bewailed, or

condemned them, instead of investigating their nature. Spinoza will

neither denounce nor ridicule human actions and appetites, but endeavor

to comprehend them on the basis of natural laws, and to consider them as

though the question concerned lines, surfaces, and bodies. He aims not

to look on hate, anger, and the rest as flaws, but as necessary, though

troublesome, properties of human nature, for which, as really as for heat

and cold, thunder and lightning, a causal explanation is requisite.--As a determinate, finite being the mind is dependent in its existence and its activity on other finite things, and is incomprehensible without them: from its involution in the general course of nature the inadequate ideas inevitably follow, and from these the passive states or emotions; the passions thus belong to human nature, as one subject to limitation and negation .-- The destruction of contingent and perishable things is effected by external causes; no one is destroyed by itself; so far as in it lies everything strives to persist in its being (III. prop . 4 and 6). The fundamental endeavor after self-preservation constitutes the essence of each thing (III. prop . 7). This endeavor (conatus) is termed will (voluntas) or desire (cupiditas) when it is referred to the mind alone, and appetite (appetitus) when referred to the mind and body together; desire or volition is conscious appetite (III. prop . 9, schol .). We call a thing good because we desire it, not desire a thing because we hold it good (cf. Hobbes, p. 75). To desire two further fundamental forms of the emotions are added, pleasure and pain. If a thing increases the power of our body to act, the idea of it increases the power of our soul to think, and is gladly imagined by it. Pleasure ( laetitia ) is the transition of a man to a greater, and pain (tristitia) his transition to a lesser perfection.

All other emotions are modifications or combinations of the three original ones, to which Spinoza reduces the six of Descartes (cf. p. 105). In

the deduction and description of them his procedure is sometimes aridly

systematic, sometimes even forced and artificial, but for the most part

ingenious, appropriate, and psychologically acute. Whatever gives us

pleasure augments our being, and whatever pains us diminishes it; hence we

seek to preserve the causes of pleasurable emotions, and love them, to do

away with the causes of painful ones, and hate them. "Love is pleasure

accompanied by the idea of an external cause; hate is pain accompanied by

the idea of an external cause." Since all that furthers or diminishes the

being of (the cause of our pleasure) the object of our love, exercises

at the same time a like influence on us, we love that which rejoices the

object of our love and hate that which disturbs it; its happiness and

suffering become ours also. The converse is true of the object of our hate:

its good fortune provokes us and its ill fortune pleases us. If we are

filled with no emotion toward things like ourselves, we sympathize in their

sad or joyous feelings by involuntary imitation. Pity, from which we

strive to free ourselves as from every painful affection, inclines us to

benevolence or to assistance in the removal of the cause of the misery of

others. Envy of those who are fortunate, and commiseration of those who are

in trouble, are alike rooted in emulation. Man is by nature inclined

to envy and malevolence. Hate easily leads to underestimation, love to

overestimation, of the object, and self-love to pride or self-satisfaction,

which are much more frequently met with than unfeigned humility. Immoderate

desire for honor is termed ambition; if the desire to please others is kept

within due bounds it is praised as unpretentiousness, courtesy, modesty

(\_modestia\_). Ambition, luxury, drunkenness, avarice, and lust have no

contraries, for temperance, sobriety, and chastity are not emotions

(passive states), but denote the power of the soul by which the former

are moderated, and which is discussed later under the name fortitudo .

Self-abasement or humility is a feeling of pain arising from the

consideration of our weakness and impotency; its opposite is

self-complacency. Either of these may be accompanied by the (erroneous)

belief that we have done the saddening or gladdening act of our own free

will; in this case the former affection is termed repentance. Hope and fear

are inconstant pleasure and pain, arising from the idea of something past

or to come, concerning whose coming and whose issue we are still in doubt.

There is no hope unmingled with fear, and no fear without hope; for he who

still doubts imagines something which excludes the existence of that which

is expected. If the cause of doubt is removed, hope is transformed into a

feeling of confidence and fear into despair. There are as many kinds of

emotions as there are classes among their objects or causes.

Besides the emotions to be termed "passions" in the strict sense, states

of passivity, Spinoza recognizes others which relate to us as active. Only

those which are of the nature of pleasure or desire belong to this class

of \_active\_ emotions; the painful affections are entirely excluded, since

without exception they diminish or arrest the mind's power to think. The

totality of these nobler impulses is called \_fortitudo\_ (fortitude), and

a distinction is made among them between \_animositas\_
(vigor of soul) and

\_generositas\_ (magnanimity, noble-mindedness), according
as rational

desire is directed to the preservation of our own being or to aiding our

fellow-men. Presence of mind and temperance are examples of the former,

modesty and clemency of the latter. By this bridge, the idea of the active

emotions, we may follow Spinoza into the field of ethics.

%(c) Practical Philosophy.%--Spinoza's theory of ethics is based on the

equation of the three concepts, perfection, reality, activity (V. prop.

40, \_dem\_.). The more active a thing is, the more perfect it is and the

more reality it possesses. It is active, however, when it is the complete

or adequate cause of that which takes place within it or without it;

passive when it is not at all the cause of this, or the cause only in part.

A cause is termed adequate, when its effect can be clearly and distinctly

perceived from it alone. The human mind, as a \_modus\_ of thought, is active

when it has adequate ideas; all its passion consists in confused ideas,

among which belong the affections produced by external objects. The essence

of the mind is thought; volition is not only dependent on cognition, but at

bottom identical with it.

Descartes had already made the will the power of affirmation and negation.

Spinoza advances a step further: the affirmation cannot be separated from

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the idea affirmed, it is impossible to conceive a truth
without in the
same act affirming it, the idea involves its own
affirmation. "Will and
understanding are one and the same" (II. prop. 49,
cor .). For Spinoza
moral activity is entirely resolved into cognitive
activity. To the two
stages of knowing, imaginatio and intellectus,
correspond two stages
of willing--desire, which is ruled by imagination, and
volition, which is
quided by reason. The passive emotions of sensuous
desire are directed to
perishable objects, the active, which spring from
reason, have an eternal
object -- the knowledge of the truth, the intuition of
God. For reason there
are no distinctions of persons, -- she brings men into
concord and gives them
a common end (IV. prop. 35-37,40), -- and no
distinctions of time (IV.
prop . 62, 66), and in the active emotions, which are
always good, no
excess (IV. _prop_. 61). The passive emotions arise from
confused ideas.
They cease to be passions, when the confused ideas of
the modifications of
the body are transformed into clear ones; as soon as we
have clear ideas,
we become active and cease to be slaves of desire. We
master the emotions
by gaining a clear knowledge of them. Now, an idea is
clear when we cognize
its object not as an individual thing, but in its
connection, as a link in
the causal chain, as necessary, and as a mode of God.
The more the mind
conceives things in their necessity, and the emotions in
their reference to
God, the less it is passively subject to the emotions,
the more power it
attains over them: "Virtue is power" (IV. def . 8;
prop . 20, dem .). It
is true, indeed, that one emotion can be conquered only
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by another stronger

one, a passive emotion only by an active one. The active emotion by which

knowledge gains this victory over the passions is the joyous consciousness

of our power (III. \_prop\_. 58, 59). Adequate ideas conceive their objects

in union with God; thus the pleasure which proceeds from knowledge of,

and victory over, the passions is accompanied by the idea of God, and,

consequently (according to the definition of love), by love toward God

(V. \_prop\_. 15,  $\overline{32}$ ). The knowledge and love of God, together, "intellectual

love toward God,"[1] is the highest good and the highest virtue (IV.

\_prop\_. 28). Blessedness is not the reward of virtue, but virtue itself.

The intellectual love of man toward God, in which the highest peace of the

soul, blessedness, and freedom consist, and in virtue of which (since it,

like its object and cause, true knowledge, is eternal), the soul is not

included in the destruction of the body (V. \_prop\_. 23, 33), is a part of

the infinite love with which God loves himself, and is one and the same

with the love of God to man. The eternal part of the soul is reason,

through which it is active; the perishable part is imagination or sensuous

representation, through which it is passively affected. We are immortal

only in adequate cognition and in love to God; more of the wise man's soul

is immortal than of the fool's.

[Footnote 1: The conception \_amor Dei intellectualis\_ in Spinoza is

discussed in a dissertation by C. Lülmann, Jena, 1884.]

Spinoza's ethics is intellectualistic--virtue is based on knowledge.[1] It

is, moreover, naturalistic--morality is a necessary sequence from human

nature; it is a physical product, not a product of freedom; for the acts of

the will are determined by ideas, which in their turn are the effects

of earlier causes. The foundation of virtue is the effort after

self-preservation: How can a man desire to act rightly unless he desires to

be (IV. \_prop\_. 21, 22)? Since reason never enjoins that which is contrary

to nature, it of necessity requires every man to love himself, to seek

that which is truly useful to him, and to desire all that makes him more

perfect. According to the law of nature all that is useful is allowable.

The useful is that which increases our power, activity, or perfection, or

that which furthers knowledge, for the life of the soul consists in thought

(IV. \_prop. 26; app. cap\_. 5). That alone is an evil which restrains man

from perfecting the reason and leading a rational life. Virtuous action is

equivalent to following the guidance of the reason in self-preservation

(IV. \_prop\_. 24).--Nowhere in Spinoza are fallacies more frequent than

in his moral philosophy; nowhere is there a clearer revelation of the

insufficiency of his artificially constructed concepts, which, in their

undeviating abstractness, are at no point congruent with reality. He is

as little true to his purpose to exclude the imperative element, and to

confine himself entirely to the explanation of human actions considered as

facts, as any philosopher who has adopted a similar aim. He relieves the

inconsistency by clothing his injunctions under the ancient ideal of the

free wise man. This, in fact, is not the only thing in

Spinoza which

reminds one of the customs of the Greek moralists. He renews the Platonic

idea of a philosophical virtue, and the opinion of Socrates, that right

action will result of itself from true insight. Arguing from himself, from

his own pure and strong desire for knowledge, to mankind in general, he

makes reason the essence of the soul, thought the essence of reason, and

holds the direction of the impulse of self-preservation to the perfection

of knowledge, which is "the better part of us," to be the natural one.

[Footnote 1: That virtue which springs from knowledge is alone genuine.

The painful, hence unactive, emotions of pity and repentance may impel to

actions whose accomplishment is better than their omission. Emotion caused

by sympathy for others and contrition for one's own quilt, both of which

increase present evil by new ones, have only the value of evils of a lesser

kind. They are salutary for the irrational man, in so far as the one spurs

him on to acts of assistance and the other diminishes his pride. They

are harmful to the wise man, or, at least, useless; he is in no need of

irrational motives to rational action. Action from insight is alone true morality.]

All men endeavor after continuance of existence (III. \_prop\_. 6); why not

all after virtue? If all endeavor after it, why do so few reach the goal?

Whence the sadly large number of the irrational, the selfish, the vicious?

Whence the evil in the world? Vice is as truly an outcome of "nature" as

virtue. Virtue is power, vice is weakness; the former is

knowledge, the

latter ignorance. Whence the powerless natures? Whence defective knowledge?

Whence imperfection in general?

The concept of imperfection expresses nothing positive, nothing actual, but

merely a defect, an absence of reality. It is nothing but an idea in us,

a fiction which arises through the comparison of one thing with another

possessing greater reality, or with an abstract generic concept, a pattern,

which it seems unable to attain. That concepts of value are not properties

of things themselves, but denote only their pleasurable or painful effects

on us, is evident from the fact that one and the same thing may be at the

same time good, bad, and indifferent: the music which is good for the

melancholy man may be bad for the mourner, and neither good nor bad for the

deaf. Knowledge of the bad is an abstract, inadequate idea; in God there is

no idea of evil. If imperfection and error were something real, it would

have to be conceded that God is the author of evil and sin. In reality

everything is that which it can be, hence without defect: everything actual

is, in itself considered, perfect. Even the fool and the sinner cannot be

otherwise than he is; he appears imperfect only when placed beside the wise

and the virtuous. Sin is thus only a lesser reality than virtue, evil a

lesser good; good and bad, activity and passivity, power and weakness

are merely distinctions in degree. But why is not everything absolutely

perfect? Why are there lesser degrees of reality? Two answers are given.

The first is found only between the lines: the imperfections in the

being and action of individual things are grounded in their finitude,

particularly in their involution in the chain of causality, in virtue of

which they are acted on from without, and are determined in their action

not by their own nature only, but also by external causes. Man sins because

he is open to impressions from external things, and only superior natures

are strong enough to preserve their rational self-determination in spite

of this. The other answer is expressly given at the end of the first part

(with an appeal to the sixteenth proposition, that everything which

the divine understanding conceives as creatable has actually come into

existence). "To those who ask why God did not so create all men that they

should be governed only by reason, I reply only: because matter was not

lacking to him for the creation of every degree of perfection from highest

to lowest; or, more strictly, because the laws of his nature were so ample

as so suffice for the production of everything conceivable by an infinite

intellect." All possible degrees of perfection have come into being,

including sin and error, which represent the lowest grade. The universe

forms a chain of degrees of perfection, of which none must be wanting:

particular cases of defect are justified by the perfection of the whole,

which would be incomplete without the lowest degree of perfection, vice

and wickedness. Here we see Spinoza following a path which Leibnitz was to

broaden out into a highway in his \_Theodicy\_. Both favor the quantitative

view of the world, which softens the antitheses, and reduces distinctions

of kind to distinctions of degree. Not till Kant was the

qualitative view

of the world, which had been first brought into ethics by Christianity,

restored to its rights. An ethics which denies freedom and  $\operatorname{evil}$  is nothing

but a physics of morals.

In his \_theory of the state\_ Spinoza follows Hobbes pretty closely, but

rejects absolutism, and declares democracy, in which each is obedient to

self-imposed law, to be the form of government most in accordance with

reason. (So in the \_Tractatus Theologico-Politicus\_, while in the later

\_Tractatus Politicus\_ he gives the preference to aristocracy.) In

accordance with the supreme right of nature each man deems good, and seeks

to gain, that which seems to him useful; all things belong to all, each may

destroy the objects of his hate. Conflict and insecurity prevail in the

state of nature as a result of the sensuous desires and emotions ( homines

ex natura hostes\_); and they can be done away with only through the

establishment of a society, which by punitive laws compels everyone to do,

and leave undone, that which the general welfare demands. Strife and breach

of faith become sin only in the state; before its formation that alone was

wrong which no one had the desire and power to do. Besides this mission,

however, of protecting selfish interests by the prevention of aggression,

the civil community has a higher one, to subserve the development of

reason; it is only in the state that true morality and true freedom are

possible, and the wise man will prefer to live in the state, because

he finds more freedom there than in isolation. Thus the dislocation of

concepts, which is perceptible in Spinoza's ethics, repeats itself in his

politics. First, virtue is based on the impulse of self-preservation and

the good is equated with that which is useful to the individual; then, with

a transformation of mere utility into "true" utility, the rational moment

is brought in (first as practical prudence, next as the impulse after

knowledge, and then, with a gradual change of meaning, as moral wisdom),

until, finally, in strange contrast to the naturalistic beginning, the

Christian idea of virtue as purity, self-denial, love to our neighbors and

love to God, is reached. In a similar way "Spinoza conceives the starting

point of the state naturalistically, its culmination idealistically."[1]

[Footnote 1: C. Schindler in his dissertation \_Ueber den Begriff des

Guten und Nützlichen bei Spinoza\_, Jena, 1885, p. 42, a work, however,

which does not penetrate to the full depth of the matter. Cf. Eucken,

\_Lebensanschauungen\_, p. 406.]

The fundamental ideas of the Spinozistic system, and those which render

it important, are rationalism, pantheism, the essential identity of the

material and spiritual worlds, and the uninterrupted mechanism of becoming.

Besides the twisting of ethical concepts just mentioned, we may briefly

note the most striking of the other difficulties and contradictions which

Spinoza left unexplained. There is a break between his endeavor to exalt

the absolute high above the phenomenal world of individual existence, and,

at the same time, to bring the former into the closest possible conjunction

with the latter, to make it dwell therein--a break between the transcendent

and immanent conceptions of the idea of God. No light is vouchsafed on the

relation between primary and secondary causes, between the immediate divine

causality and the divine causality mediated through finite causes. The

infinity of God is in conflict with his complete cognizability on the

part of man; for how is a finite, transitory spirit able to conceive

the Infinite and Eternal? How does the human intellect rise above modal

limitations to become capable and worthy of the mystical union with God?

Reference has been already made to the twofold nature of the attributes (as

forms of intellectual apprehension and as real properties of substance)

which invites contradictory interpretations.

## 3. %Pascal, Malebranche, Bayle.%

Returning from Holland to France, we find a combination of Cartesianism

and mysticism similar to that which we have noticed in the former country.

Under Geulincx these two forces had lived peacefully together; in Spinoza

they had entered into the closest alliance; with Blaise Pascal (1623-62),

the first to adopt a religious tendency, they came into a certain

antithesis. Spinoza had taught: through the knowledge of God to the love

of God; in Pascal the watchword becomes, God is not conceived through

the reason, but felt with the heart. After attacking the Jesuits in his

\_Provincial Letters\_, and unveiling the worthlessness of their casuistical

morality, Pascal, constrained by a genuine piety, undertook to construct a

philosophy of Christianity; but the attempt was ended by the early death of

the author, who had always suffered under a weak constitution. Fragments of

this work were published by his friends, the Jansenists, under the title,

\_Thoughts on Religion\_, 1669, though not without mediating alterations.

The Port-Royal \_Logic (The Art of Thinking\_, 1662), edited by Arnauld and

Nicole, was based on a treatise of Pascal. His thought, which was not

distinguished by clearness, but by depth and movement, and which, after

the French fashion, delighted in antitheses, was influenced by Descartes,

Montaigne, and Epictetus. He, too, finds in mathematics the example for

all science, and holds that whatever transcends mathematics transcends the

reason. By the application of mathematics to the study of nature we attain

a mundane science, which is certain, no doubt, and which makes constant

progress,[1] but which does not satisfy, since it reveals nothing of the

infinite, of the whole, without which the parts remain unintelligible.

Hence all natural philosophy together is not worth an hour's toil. Pascal

consoles himself for our ignorance concerning external things by the stability of ethics.

[Footnote 1: It is this uninterrupted progress which raises the reason

above the operations of nature and the instincts of animals. While the bees

build their cells to-day just as they did a thousand years ago, science is

continually developing. This guarantees to us our immortal destiny.]

The leading principles of his ethics are as follows: In sin the love to God

created in us has left us and self-love has transgressed its limits; pride

has delivered us over to selfishness and misery. Our nature is corrupted,

but not beyond redemption. In his actions worthless and depraved, man is

seen to be exalted and incomprehensible in his ends; in reality he is

worthy of abhorrence, but great in his destination. No philosophy or

religion has so taught us at once to know the greatness and the misery of

man as Christianity: this bids him recognize his low condition, but at the

same time to endeavor to become like God. We must humbly despise the world

and renounce ourselves; in order to love God, we must hate ourselves. Moral

reformation is an act of divine grace, and the merit of human volition

consists only in not resisting this. God transforms the heart by a heavenly

sweetness, grants it to know that spiritual pleasure is greater than bodily

pleasure, and infuses into it a disgust at the allurements of sin. Virtue

is finding one's greatest happiness in God or in the eternal good. As

morality is a matter of feeling, not of thought, so God, so even the first

principles on which the certitude of demonstration depends, are the object,

not of reason, but of the heart. That which certifies to the highest

indemonstrable principles is a feeling, a belief, an instinct of nature:

\_les principes se sentent\_. As a defender of the needs and rights of the

heart, Pascal is a forerunner of the great Rousseau. His depreciation of

the reason to exalt faith establishes a certain relationship with the

skeptics of his native land, among whom Cousin has unjustly classed him

(\_Études sur Pascal\_, 5th ed., 1857).[1]

[Footnote 1: Of the works on Pascal we may mention that of H. Reuchlin, 1840: Havet's edition of the Pensées with notes.

1840: Havet's edition of the \_Pensées\_, with notes, Paris, 1866; and the

Étude by Ed. Droz, Paris, 1886.]

Nicolas Malebranche (1638-1715), a member of the Oratory of Jesus, in

Paris, which was opposed by the Jesuits, completed the development of

Cartesianism in the religious direction adopted by Pascal. His thought

is controlled by the endeavor to combine Cartesian metaphysics and

Augustinian Christianity, those two great forces which constituted the

double citadel of his order. His collected works appeared three years

before his death; and a new edition in four volumes, prepared by

J. Simon, in 1871. His chief work, \_On the Search for Truth\_ (new edition

by F. Bouillier, 1880), appeared in 1675, and was followed by the

\_Treatise on Ethics\_ (new edition by  ${\tt H.}$  Joly, 1882) and the Christian

and Metaphysical Meditations in 1684, the \_Discussions on Metaphysics and

on Religion\_ in 1688, and various polemic treatises. The best known among

the doctrines of Malebranche is the principle that \_we see all things in

God (que nous voyons toutes choses en Dieu\_.-- Recherche , iii. 2, 6). What

does this mean, and how is it established? It is intended as an answer to

the question, How is it possible for the mind to cognize the body if, as

Descartes has shown, mind and body are two fundamentally distinct and

reciprocally independent substances?

The seeker after truth must first understand the sources of error. Of these

there are two, or, more exactly, five--as many as there are faculties of

the soul. Error may spring from either the cognitive or the appetitive

faculty; in the first case, either from senseperception, the imagination,

or the pure understanding, and, in the latter, from the inclinations or the

passions. The inclinations and the passions do not reveal the nature of

things, but only express how they affect us, of what value they are to

us. Further still, the senses and the imagination only reproduce the

impressions which things make on us as feeling subjects, express only what

they are for us, not what they are in themselves. The senses have been

given us simply for the preservation of our body, and so long as we expect

nothing further from them than practical information concerning the

(useful or hurtful) relation of things to our body, there is no reason for

mistrusting them, --here we are not deceived by sensation, but at most by

the overhasty judgment of the will. "Consider the senses as false witnesses

in regard to the truth, but as trustworthy counselors in relation to the

interests of life!"--Sensation and imagination belong to the soul in virtue

of its union with the body; apart from this it is pure spirit. The essence

of the soul is thought, for this function is the only one which cannot be

abstracted from it without destroying it. Hence there can be no moment in

the life of the soul when it ceases to think; it thinks always (\_l'âme

pense toujours\_), only it does not always remember the fact.

The kinds of knowledge differ with the classes of things cognized. God is

known immediately and intuitively. He is necessary and unlimited being,

the universal, infinite being, being absolutely; he only is known through

himself. The concept of the infinite is the presupposition of the concept

of the finite, and the former is earlier in us; we gain the conception of

a particular thing only when we omit something from the idea of "being in

general," or limit it. God is cogitative, like spirits, and extended, like

bodies, but in an entirely different manner from created things. We know

our own soul through consciousness or inner perception. We know its

existence more certainly than that of bodies, but understand its nature

less perfectly than theirs. To know that it is capable of sensations of

pain, of heat, of light, we must have experienced them. For knowledge

of the minds of others we are dependent upon conjecture, on analogical

inferences from ourselves.

But how is the unextended soul capable of cognizing extended body? Only

through the medium of \_ideas\_. The ideas occupy an intermediate position

between objects, whose archetypes they are, and representations in the

soul, whose causes they are. The ideas, after the pattern of which God

has created things, and the relations among them (necessary truths), are

eternal, hence uncaused; they constitute the wisdom of God and are not

dependent on his will. Things are in God in archetypal form, and are

cognized through these their archetypes in God. Ideas are not produced by

bodies, by the emission of sensuous images,[1] nor are they originated by

the soul, or possessed by it as an innate possession.

But God is the cause

of knowledge, although he neither imparts ideas to the soul in creation nor

produces them in it on every separate occasion. The ideas or perfections of

things are in God and are beheld by spirits, who likewise dwell in God as

the universal reason. As space is the place of bodies, so God is the

place of spirits. As bodies are modes of extension, so their ideas are

modifications of the idea of extension or of "intelligible extension." The

principle stated at the beginning, that things are perceived in God, is,

therefore, supported in the following way: we perceive bodies (through

ideas, which ideas, and we ourselves, are) in God.

[Footnote 1: Malebranche's refutation of the emanation hypothesis of the

Peripatetics is acute and still worthy of attention. If bodies transmitted

to the sense-organs forms like themselves, these copies, which would

evidently be corporeal, must, by their departure, diminish the mass of the

body from which they came away, and also, because of their impenetrability,

obstruct and interfere with one another, thus destroying the possibility of

clear impressions. A further point against the image theory is furnished by

the increase in the size of an object, when approached. And, above all, it

can never be made conceivable how motion can be transformed into sensations or ideas.

As the knowledge of truth has been found to consist in seeing things as God

sees them, so morality consists in man's loving things as God loves them,

or, what amounts to the same thing, in loving them to that degree which

is their due in view of their greater or less perfection. If, in the last

analysis, all cognition is knowledge of God, so all volition is loving God;

there is implanted in every creature a direction toward the Creator. God is

not only the primordial, unlimited being, he is also the highest good,

the final end of all striving. As the ideas of things are imperfect

participations in, or determinations of universal being, the absolute

perfection of God, so the particular desires, directed toward individual

objects, are limitations of the universal will toward the good. How does

it happen that the human will, so variously mistaking its fundamental

direction toward God, attaches itself to perishable goods, and prefers

worthless objects to those which have value, and earthly to heavenly

pleasure? The soul is, on the one hand, united to God, on the other, united

to the body. The possibility of error and sin rests on its union with the

body, since with the ideas (as representations of the pure understanding)

are associated sensuous images, which mingle with and becloud them, and

passions with the inclinations (or the will of the soul, in so far as it is

pure spirit). This gives, however, merely the possibility of the immoral,

sensuous, God-estranged disposition, which becomes actual only through

man's free act, when he fails to stand the test. For sin does not consist

in having passions, but in consenting to them. The passion is not caused by

the corporeal movement of which it is the sequel, but only occasioned by

it; and the same is true of the movement of the limbs and the decision

of the will. The one true cause of all that happens is

God. It is he who

produces affections in the soul, and motion in the material world. For the

body possesses only the capacity of being moved; and the soul cannot be the

cause of the movement, since it would then have to know how it produces

the latter. In fact those who lack a medical training have no idea of the

muscular and nervous processes involved. Without God we cannot even move

the tongue. It is he who raises our arm, even when we use it contrary to his law.

Anxious to guard his pantheism from being identified with that of Spinoza,

Malebranche points out that, according to his views, the universe is in

God, not, as with Spinoza, that God is in the universe; that he teaches

creation, which Spinoza denies; that he distinguishes, which Spinoza had

not done, between the world in God (the ideas of things) and the world of

created things, and between intelligible and corporeal extension. It may

be added that he maintains the freedom of God and of man, which Spinoza

rejects, and that he conceives God, who brings everything to pass, not as

nature, but as omnipotent will. Nevertheless, as Kuno Fischer has shown,

he approaches the naturalism of Spinoza more nearly than he is himself

conscious, when he explains finite things as limitations (hence as modes)

of the divine existence, posits the will of God in dependence on his wisdom

(the uncreated world of ideas), thus limiting it in its omnipotence, and,

which is decisive, makes God the sole author of motion, \_i.e.\_, a natural

cause. His attempt at a Christian pantheism was consequently unsuccessful.

But its failure has not shattered the well-grounded fame of its thoughtful

author as the second greatest metaphysician of France.

Pierre Poiret[1] (1646-1719; for some years a preacher in Hamburg; lived

later in Rhynsburg near Leyden) was rendered hostile to Cartesianism

through the influence of mystical writings (among others those of

Antoinette Bourignon, which he published), and through the perception of

the results to which it had led in Spinoza. All cognition is taking up the

form of the object. The perfection of man is based more on his passive

capacities than on his active reason, which is concerned with mere ideas,

unreal shadows; the mathematical spirit leads to fatalism, to the denial of

freedom. The passive faculties, on the contrary, are in direct intercourse

with reality, the senses with external material objects, and the arcanum of

the mind, the basis of the soul, the intellect, with spiritual truths

and with God, whose existence is more certain than our own. Man is not

unconcerned in the development of the highest power of the mind, he must

offer himself to God in sincere humility. In subordination to the passive

intellect, the external faculty, the active reason, is also to be

cultivated; it deserves care, like the skin. Evil consists in the absurdity

that the creature, who apart from God is nothing, ascribes to himself an independent existence.

[Footnote 1: Poiret: \_Cogitationes Rationates de Deo, Anima, et Malo ,

1677, the later editions including a vehement attack on the atheism of

Spinoza: \_L'Économie Divine\_, 1682; \_De Eruditione

Solida, Superficiaria, et Falsa\_, 1692; \_Fides et Ratio Collatae\_, against Locke, 1707.]

Le Vayer and Huet, who have been already mentioned (pp. 50-51),

mediate between the founders of skepticism and Bayle, its most gifted

representative. The latter of these two wrote a Criticism of the Cartesian

Philosophy\_, 1689, besides a \_Treatise on the Impotence of the Human Mind\_,

which did not appear until after his death. He opposes, among other things,

the criterion of truth based on evidence, since there is an evidence of

the false not to be distinguished from that of the true, as well as the

position that God becomes a deceiver in the bestowal of a weak and blind

reason--for he gives us, at the same time, the power to know its deceptive character.

As the last among those influenced by Descartes but who advanced beyond

him, may be mentioned the acute Pierre Bayle (1647-1706; professor in Sedan

and Rotterdam; \_Works\_, 1725-31[1]), who greatly excited the world of

letters by his occasional and polemic treatises, and still more by the

journal, \_Nouvelles de la République des Lettres\_ from 1684, and his

\_Historical and Critical Dictionary\_, in two volumes, 1695 and 1697.

Nowhere do the most opposite antitheses dwell in such close proximity as

in the mind of Bayle. Along with an ever watchful doubt he harbors a most

active zeal for knowledge, with a sincere spirit of belief (which has been

wrongly disputed by Lange, Zeller, and Pünjer) a demoniacal pleasure in

bringing to light absurdities in the doctrines of faith,

with absolute

confidence in the infallibility of conscience an entirely pessimistic view

of human morality. His strength lies in criticism and polemics, his work in

the latter (aside from his hostility to fanaticism and the persecution of

those differing in faith) being directed chiefly against optimism and the

deistic religion of reason, which holds the Christian dogmas capable of

proof, or, at least, faith and knowledge capable of reconciliation. The

doctrines of faith are not only above reason, incomprehensible, but

contrary to reason; and it is just on this that our merit in accepting

them depends. The mysteries of the Gospel do not seek success before the

judgment seat of thought, they demand the blind submission of the reason;

nay, if they were objects of knowledge they would cease to be mysteries.

Thus we must choose between religion and philosophy, for they cannot be

combined. For one who is convinced of the untrustworthiness of the reason

and her lack of competence in things supernatural, it is in no wise

contradictory or impossible to receive as true things which she declares

to be false; he will thank God for the gift of a faith which is entirely

independent of the clearness of its objects and of its agreement with the

axioms of philosophy. Even, when in purely scientific questions he calls

attention to difficulties and shows contradictions on every hand, Bayle by

no means intends to hold up principles with contradictory implications as

false, but only as uncertain.[2] The reason, he says, generalizing from his

own case, is capable only of destruction, not of construction; of

discovering error, not of finding truth; of finding reasons and

counter-reasons, of exciting doubt and controversy, not of vouchsafing

certitude. So long as it contents itself with controverting that which is

false, it is potent and salutary; but when, despising divine assistance, it

advances beyond this, it becomes dangerous, like a caustic drug which

attacks the healthy flesh after it has consumed that which was diseased.

[Footnote 1: Cf. on Bayle, L. Feuerbach. 1838, 2d ed., 1844; Eucken in the \_Allgemeine Zeitung\_, supplement to Nos. 251, 252, October 27, 28, 1891.]

[Footnote 2: Thus, in regard to the problem of freedom, he finds it hard

to comprehend how the creatures, who are not the authors of their own

existence, can be the authors of their own actions, but, at the same time,

inadmissible to think of God as the cause of evil. He seeks only to show

the indemonstrability and incomprehensibility of freedom, not to reject it.

For he sees in it the condition of morality, and calls attention to

the fact that the difficulties in which those who deny freedom involve

themselves are far greater than those of their opponents. He shows himself

entirely averse to the determinism and pantheism of Spinoza.

He who seeks to refute skepticism must produce a criterion of truth. If

such exists, it is certainly that advanced by Descartes, the evidence, the

evident clearness of a principle. Well, then, the following principles pass

for evident: That one, who does not exist, can have no responsibility for

an evil action; that two things, which are identical with the same thing,

are identical with each other; that I am the same man to-day that I was

yesterday. Now, the revealed doctrines of original sin and of the Trinity

show that the first and second of these axioms are false, and the Church

doctrine of the preservation of the world as a continuous creation, that

the last principle is uncertain. Thus if not even selfevidence furnishes

us a criterion of truth, we must conclude that none whatever exists.

Further, in regard to the origin of the world from a single principle, its

creation by God, we find this supported, no doubt, both by the conclusions

of the pure reason and by the consideration of nature, but controvened by

the fact of evil, by the misery and wickedness of man. Is it conceivable

that a holy and benevolent God has created so unhappy and wicked a being?

Bayle's motives in defending faith against reason were, on the one hand,

his personal piety, on the other, his conviction of the unassailable purity

of Christian ethics. All the sects agree in regard to moral principles, and

it is this which assures us of the divinity of the Christian revelation.

Nevertheless, he does not conceal from himself the fact that possession of

the theoretical side of religion is far from being a guarantee of practice

in conformity with her precepts. It is neither true that faith alone leads

to morality nor that unbelief is the cause of immorality. A state composed

of atheists would be not at all impossible, if only strict punishments and

strict notions of honor were insisted upon.

The judgments of the natural reason in moral questions are as certain

and free from error as its capacity is shown to be weak and limited in

theoretical science. The idea of morality never deceives anyone; the moral

law is innate in every man. Although Christianity has given the best

development of our duties, yet the moral law can be understood and followed

by all men, even by heathen and atheists. We do not need to be Christians

in order to act virtuously; the knowledge given by conscience is not

dependent upon revelation. From the knowledge of the good to the practice

of it is, it is true, a long step; we may be convinced of moral truth

without loving it, and God's grace alone is able to strengthen us against

the power of the passions, by adding to the illumination of the mind an

inclination of the heart toward the good. Temperament, custom, self-love

move the soul more strongly than general truths. As in life pleasure is far

outbalanced by pain and vexation, so far more evil acts are done than good

ones: history is a collection of misdeeds, with scarcely one virtuous act

for a thousand crimes. It is not the external action that constitutes the

ethical character of a deed, but the motive or disposition; almsgiving from

motives of pride is a vice, and only when practiced out of love to one's

neighbors, a virtue. God looks only at the act of the will; our highest

duty, and one which admits of no exceptions, is never to act contrary to conscience.

## LOCKE.

After the Cartesian philosophy had given decisive expression to the

tendencies of modern thought, and had been developed through occasionalism

to its completion in the system of Spinoza, the line of further progress

consisted in two factors: Descartes's principles--one-sidedly rationalistic

and abstractly scientific, as they were--were, on the one hand, to be

supplemented by the addition of the empirical element which Descartes had

neglected, and, on the other, to be made available for general culture by

approximation to the interests of practical life.

England, with its freer

and happier political conditions, was the best place for the accomplishment

of both ends, and Locke, a typically healthy and sober English thinker,

with a distaste for extreme views, the best adapted mind. Descartes, the

rationalist, had despised experience, and Bacon, the empiricist, had

despised mathematics; but Locke aims to show that while the reason is the

instrument of science, demonstration its form, and the realm of knowledge

wider than experience, yet this instrument and this form are dependent for  $% \left( 1\right) =\left( 1\right) +\left( 1\right)$ 

their content on a supply of material from the senses. The emphasis, it is

true, falls chiefly on the latter half of this programme, and posterity,

especially, has almost exclusively attended to the empirical side of

Locke's theory of knowledge in giving judgment concerning it.

John Locke was born at Wrington, not far from Bristol, in 1632. At Oxford

he busied himself with philosophy, natural science, and

medicine, being

repelled by the Scholastic thinkers, but strongly attracted by the writings

of Descartes. In 1665 he became secretary to the English ambassador to the

Court of Brandenburg. Returning thence to Oxford he made the acquaintance

of Lord Anthony Ashley (from 1672 Earl of Shaftesbury; died in Holland

1683), who received him into his own household as a friend, physician, and

tutor to his son (the father of Shaftesbury, the moral philosopher), and

with whose varying fortunes Locke's own were henceforth to be intimately

connected. Twice he became secretary to his patron (once in 1667--with

an official secretaryship in 1672, when Shaftesbury became Lord

Chancellor--and again in 1679, when he became President of the Council),

but both times he lost his post on his friend's fall. The years 1675-79

were spent in Montpellier and Paris. In 1683 he went into voluntary exile

in Holland (where Shaftesbury had died in January of the same year), and

remained there until 1689, when the ascension of the throne by William of

Orange made it possible for him to return to England. Here he was made

Commissioner of Appeals, and, subsequently, one of the Commissioners of

Trade and Plantations (till 1700). He died in 1704 at Gates, in Essex, at

the house of Sir Francis Masham, whose wife was the daughter of Cudworth, the philosopher.

Locke's chief work, \_An Essay concerning Human Understanding , which had

been planned as early as 1670, was published in 1689-90, a short abstract

of it having previously appeared in French in Le Clerc's Bibliothèque

Universelle\_, 1688. His theoretical works include, further, the two

posthumous treatises, \_On the Conduct of the Understanding\_ (originally

intended for incorporation in the fourth edition of the Essay , which,

however, appeared in 1700 without this chapter, which probably had proved

too extended) and the \_Elements of Natural Philosophy\_. To political

and politico-economic questions Locke contributed the two \_Treatises on

Government\_, 1690, and three essays on money and the coinage. In the year

1689 appeared the first of three \_Letters on Tolerance\_, followed, in 1693,

by \_Some Thoughts on Education\_, and, in 1695, by \_The Reasonableness of

Christianity as delivered in the Scriptures\_. The collected works appeared

for the first time in 1714, and in nine volumes in 1853; the philosophical

works (edited by St. John) are given in Bonn's Standard Library

 $(1867-68) \cdot [1]$ 

[Footnote 1: Lord King and Fox Bourne have written on Locke's life, 1829

and 1876. A comparison of Locke's theory of knowledge with Leibnitz's

critique was published by Hartenstein in 1865, and one by Von Benoit (prize

dissertation) in 1869, and an exposition of his theory of substance by De

Fries in 1879. Victor Cousin's \_Philosophie de Locke\_ has passed through

six editions. [Among more recent English discussions reference may be made

to Green's Introduction to Hume's \_Treatise on Human Nature\_, 1874 (new ed.

1890), which is a valuable critique of the line of development, Locke,

Berkeley, Hume; Fowler's \_Locke\_, in the English Men of Letters, 1880; and

Fraser's \_Locke\_, in Blackwood's Philosophical Classics,

%(a) Theory of Knowledge.%--Locke's theory of knowledge is controlled by two tendencies, one native, furnished by the Baconian empiricism, and the

other Continental, supplied by the Cartesian question concerning the origin

of ideas. Bacon had demanded the closest connection with experience as

the condition of fruitful inquiry. Locke supports this commendation of

experience by a detailed description of the services which it renders to

cognition, namely, by showing that, in simple ideas, perception supplies

the material for complex ideas, and for all the cognitive work of the

understanding. Descartes had divided ideas, according to their origin, into

three classes: those which are self-formed, those which come from without,

and those which are innate (p. 79), and had called this third class the

most valuable. Locke disputes the existence of ideas in the understanding

from birth, and makes it receive the elements of knowledge from the senses,

that is, from without. He is a representative of sensationalism, --not in

the stricter sense, first put into the term by those who subsequently

continued his endeavors, that thought arises from perception, that it is

transformed sensation--but in the wider sense, that thought is (free)

operation with ideas, which are neither created by it nor present in it

from the first, but given to it by perception, that, consequently, the

cognitive process begins with sensation and so its first attitude is a

passive one. From the standpoint of the Cartesian problem, which he solves

in a sense opposite to Descartes, Locke supplements the

empiricism of Bacon

by basing it on a psychologically developed theory of knowledge. That in

the course of the inquiry he introduces a new principle, which causes him

to diverge from the true empirical path, will appear in the sequel.

The question "How our ideas come into the mind" receives a negative answer

(in the first book of the \_Essay\_): "There are no innate principles in the

mind"[1] The doctrine of the innate character of certain principles is

based on their universal acceptance. The asserted agreement of mankind in

regard to the laws of thought, the principles of morality, the existence

of God, etc., is neither cogent as an argument nor correct in fact. In the

first place, even if there were any principles which everyone assented to,

this would not prove that they had been created in the soul; the fact of

general consent would admit of a different explanation. Granted that no

atheists existed, yet it would not necessarily follow that the universal

conviction of the existence of God is innate, for it might have been

gradually reached in each case through the use of the reason--might have

been inferred, for instance, from the perception of the purposive character

of the world. Second, the fact to which this theory of innate ideas appeals

is not true. No moral rule can be cited which is respected by all nations.

The idea of identity is entirely unknown to idiots and to children. If

the laws of identity and contradiction were innate they must appear in

consciousness prior to all other truths; but long before a child is

conscious of the proposition "It is impossible for the

same thing to be and

not to be," it knows that sweet is not bitter, and that black is not white.

The ideas first known are not general axioms and abstract concepts, but

particular impressions of the senses. Would nature write so illegible a

hand that the mind must wait a long time before becoming able to read what

had been inscribed upon it? It is often said, however, that innate ideas

and principles may be obscured and, finally, completely extinguished

by habit, education, and other extrinsic circumstances. Then, if

they gradually become corrupted and disappear, they must at least be

discoverable in full purity where these disturbing influences have not

yet acted; but it is especially vain to look for them in children and the

ignorant. Perhaps, however, these possess such principles unconsciously;

perhaps they are imprinted on the understanding, without being attended

to? This would be a contradiction in terms. To be in the mind or the

understanding simply means "to be understood" or to be known; no one can

have an idea without being conscious of it. Finally, if the attempt be

made to explain "originally in the mind" in so wide a sense that it would

include all truths which man can ever attain or is capable of discovering

by the right use of reason, this would make not only all mathematical

principles, but all knowledge in general, all sciences, and all arts

innate; there would be no ground even for the exclusion of wisdom and

virtue. Therefore, either all ideas are innate or none are. This is an

important alternative. While Locke decides for the second half of the

proposition, Leibnitz defends the first by a delicate application of the

concept of unconscious representation and of implicit knowledge, which his

predecessor rejects out of hand.

[Footnote 1: According to Fox Bourne this first book was written after the

others. Geil \_(Ueber die Abhängigkeit Lockes von Descartes , Strassburg,

1887, chap, iii.) has endeavored to prove that, since the arguments

controverted are wanting in Descartes, the attack was not aimed at

Descartes and his school, but at native defenders of innate ideas, as Lord

Herbert of Cherbury and the English Platonists (Cudworth, More, Parker,

Gale). That along with these the Cartesian doctrine was a second and

chief object of attack is shown by Benno Erdmann in his discussion of the

treatises by G. Geil and R. Sommer \_(Lockes Verhältnis zu Descartes\_,

Berlin, 1887) in the \_Archiv für Geschichte der Philosophie\_, ii, pp. 99-121.]

Locke's positive answer to the question concerning the origin of ideas is

given in his second book. Ideas are not present in the understanding from

the beginning, nor are they originated by the understanding, but received

through sensation. The understanding is like a piece of white paper

on which perception inscribes its characters. All knowledge arises in

experience. This is of two kinds, derived either from the external senses

or the internal sense. The perception of external objects is termed

Sensation, that of internal phenomena (of the states of the mind itself)

Reflection. External and internal perception are the

only windows

through which the light of ideas penetrates into the dark chamber of the

understanding. The two are not opened simultaneously, however, but one

after the other; since the perceptions of the sensible qualities of bodies,

unlike that of the operations of the mind itself, do not require an effort

of attention, they are the earlier. The child receives ideas of sensation

before those of reflection; internal perception presupposes external perception.

In this distinction between sensation and reflection, we may recognize

an after-effect of the Cartesian dualism between matter and spirit.

The antithesis of substances has become a duality in the faculties of

perception. But while Descartes had so far forth ascribed precedence to the

mind in that he held the self-certitude of the ego to be the highest and

clearest of all truths and the soul to be better known than the body, in

Locke the relation of the two was reversed, since he made the perception

of self dependent on the precedent perception of external objects. This

antithesis was made still sharper in later thinking, when Condillac made

full use of the priority of sensation, which in Locke had remained without

much effect; while Berkeley, on the other hand, reduced external perception

to internal perception.

All original ideas are representations either of the external senses or

of the internal sense, or of both. And since, in the case of ideas of

sensation, there is a distinction between those which are perceived by a

single one of the external senses and those which come from more than one,

four classes of simple ideas result: (1) Those which come from one external

sense, as colors, sounds, tastes, odors, heat, solidity, and the like.

(2) Those which come from more than one external sense (sight and touch),

as extension, figure, and motion. (3) Reflection on the operations of our

minds yields ideas of perception or thinking (with its various modes,

remembrance, judging, knowledge, faith, etc.), and of volition or willing.

(4) From both external and internal perception there come into the mind the

ideas of pleasure and pain, existence, power, unity, and succession. These

are approximately our original ideas, which are related to knowledge as

the letters to written discourse; as all Homer is composed out of only

twenty-four letters, so these few simple ideas constitute all the material

of knowledge. The mind can neither have more nor other simple ideas than

those which are furnished to it by these two sources of experience.

Locke differs from Descartes again in regard to extension and thought.

Extension does not constitute the essence of matter, nor thought the

essence of mind. Extension and body are not the same; the former is

presupposed by the latter as its necessary condition, but it is the former

alone which yields mathematical matter. The essence of physical matter

consists rather in solidity: where impenetrability is found there is body,

and the converse; the two are absolutely inseparable. With space the case

is different. I cannot conceive unextended matter, indeed, but I can easily

conceive immaterial extension, an unfilled space Further, if the essence

of the soul consisted in thought, it must be always thinking. As the

Cartesians maintained, it must have ideas as soon as it begins to be, which

is manifestly contrary to experience. Thinking is merely an activity of

the mind, as motion is an activity of the body, and not its essential

characteristic. The mind does not receive ideas until external objects

occasion perception in it through impressions, which it is not able to

avert. The understanding may be compared to a mirror, which, without

independent activity and without being consulted, takes up the images of

things. Some of the simple ideas which have been mentioned above represent

the properties of things as they really are, others not. The former class

includes all ideas of reflection (for we are ourselves the immediate object

of the inner sense); but among the ideas of sensation those only which come

from different senses, hence extension, motion and rest, number, figure,

and, further, solidity, are to be accounted \_primary\_ qualities, \_i. e\_.,

such as are actual copies of the properties of bodies. All other ideas, on

the contrary, have no resemblance to properties of bodies; they represent

merely the ways in which things act, and are not copies of things. The

ideas of \_secondary\_ or derivative qualities (hard and soft, warm and cold,

colors and sounds, tastes and odors) are in the last analysis caused--as

are the primary--by motion, but not perceived as such. Yellow and warm are

merely sensations in us, which we erroneously ascribe to objects; with

equal right we might ascribe to fire, as qualities

inherent in it, the

changes in form and color which it produces in wax and the pain which it

causes in the finger brought into proximity with it. The warmth and the

brightness of the blaze, the redness, the pleasant taste, and the aromatic

odor of the strawberry, exist in these bodies merely as the power to

produce such sensations in us by stimulation of the skin, the eye, the

palate, and the nose. If we remove the perceptions of them, they disappear

as such, and their causes alone remain--the bulk, figure, number, texture,

and motion of the insensible particles. The ground of the illusion lies in

the fact that such qualities as color, etc., bear no resemblance to their

causes, in no wise point to these, and in themselves contain naught of

bulk, density, figure, and motion, and that our senses are too weak

to discover the material particles and their primary qualities. -- The

distinction between qualities of the first and second order--first advanced

by the ancient atomists, revived by Galileo and Descartes on the threshold

of the modern period, retained by Locke, and still customary in the natural

science of the day--forms an important link in the transition from the

popular view of all sense-qualities as properties of things in themselves

to Kant's position, that spatial and temporal qualities also belong

to phenomena alone, and are based merely on man's subjective mode of

apprehension, while the real properties of things in themselves are unknowable.

Thus far the procedure of the understanding has been purely passive. But

besides the capacity for passively receiving simple ideas, it possesses the

further power of variously combining and extending these original ideas

which have come into it from without, of working over the material given

in sensation by the combination, relation, and separation of its various

elements. In this it is active, but not creative. It is not able to form

new simple ideas (and just as little to destroy such as already exist), but

only freely to combine the elements furnished without its assistance by

perception (or, following the figure mentioned above, to combine into

syllables and words the separate letters of sensation). Complex ideas arise

from simple ideas through voluntary combination of the latter.

Perception is the first step toward knowledge. After perception the most

indispensable faculty is retention, the prolonged consciousness of present

ideas and the revival of those which have disappeared, or, as it were, have

been put aside. For an idea to be "in the memory" means that the mind

has the capacity to reproduce it at will, whereupon it recognizes it as

previously experienced. If our ideas are not freshened up from time to time

by new impressions of the same sort they gradually fade out, until finally

(as the idea of color in one become blind in early life) they completely

disappear. Ideas impressed upon the mind by frequent repetition are rarely

entirely lost. Memory is the basis for the intellectual functions of

discernment and comparison, of composition, abstraction, and naming. Since,

amid the innumerable multitude of ideas, it is not possible to assign to

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each one a definite sign, the indispensable condition of
language is found
in the power of abstraction, that is, in the power of
generalizing ideas,
of compounding many ideas into one, and of indicating by
the names of the
general ideas, or of the classes and species, the
particular ideas also
which are contained under these. Here is the great
distinction between
man and the brute. The brute lacks language because he
lacks (not all
understanding whatever, _e.g._, not a capacity, though
an imperfect one, of
comparison and composition, but) the faculty of
abstraction and of forming
general ideas. The object of language is simply the
quick and easy
communication of our thoughts to others, not to give
expression to the real
essence of objects. Words are not names for particular
things, but signs
of general ideas; and abstracta nothing more than an
artifice for
facilitating intellectual intercourse. This
abbreviation, which aids in
the exchange of ideas, involves the danger that the
creations of the mind
denoted by words will be taken for images of real
general essences, of
which, in fact, there are none in existence, but only
particular things. In
order to prevent anyone to whom I am speaking from
understanding my words
in a different sense from the one intended, it is
necessary for me to
define the complex ideas by analyzing them into their
elements, and, on the
other hand, to give examples in experience of the simple
ideas, which do
not admit of definition, or to explain them by synonyms.
Thus much from
Locke's philosophy of language, to which he devotes the
third book of the
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Essay .

Complex ideas, which are very numerous, may be divided into three classes:
Modes, Substances, and Relations.

\_Modes\_ (states, conditions) are such combinations of simple ideas which do

not "contain in them the supposition of subsisting by themselves, but are

considered as dependencies on, or affections of substances." They fall into

two classes according as they are composed of the same simple ideas, or

simple ideas of various kinds; the former are called simple, the latter

mixed, modes. Under the former class belong, for example, a dozen or a

score, the idea of which is composed of simple units; under the latter,

running, fighting, obstinacy, printing, theft, parricide. The formation of

\_mixed\_ modes is greatly influenced by national customs.
Very complicated

transactions (sacrilege, triumph, ostracism), if often considered and

discussed, receive for the sake of brevity comprehensive names, which

cannot be rendered by a single expression in the language of other

nations among whom the custom in question is not found. The elements most

frequently employed in the formation of mixed modes are ideas of the two

fundamental activities, thinking and motion, together with power, which is

their source. Locke discusses \_simple\_ modes in more detail, especially

those derived from the ideas of space, time, unity, and power.

Modifications of space are distance, figure, place, length; since any

length or measure of space can be repeated to infinity, we reach the idea

of immensity. As modes of time are enumerated succession (which we perceive

and measure only by the flow of our ideas), duration, and lengths or

measures of duration, the endless repetition of which yields the idea of

eternity. From unity are developed the modes of numbers, and from the

unlimitedness of these the idea of infinity. No idea, however, is richer

in modes than the idea of power. A distinction must be made between active

power and passive power, or mere receptivity. While bodies are not capable

of originating motion, but only of communicating motion received, we notice

in ourselves, as spiritual beings, the capacity of originating actions and

motions. The body possesses only the passive power of being moved, the mind

the active power of producing motion. This latter is termed "will." Here

Locke discusses at length the freedom of the will, but not with entire

clearness and freedom from contradictions (cf. below).

Modes are conditions which do not subsist of themselves, but have need of

a basis or support; they are not conceivable apart from a thing whose

properties or states they are. We notice that certain qualities always

appear together, and habitually refer them to a substratum as the ground of

their unity; in which they subsist or from which they proceed. \_Substance\_

denotes this self-existent "we know not what," which has or bears the

attributes in itself, and which arouses the ideas of them in us. It is the

combination of a number of simple ideas which are presumed to belong to one

thing. From the ideas of sensation the understanding composes the idea of

body, and from the ideas of reflection that of mind. Each of these is just

as clear and just as obscure as the other; of each we

know only its effects

and its sensuous properties; its essence is for us entirely unknowable.

Instead of the customary names, material and immaterial substances,

Locke recommends cogitative and incogitative substances, since it is not

inconceivable that the Creator may have endowed some material beings with

the capacity of thought. God, -- the idea of whom is attained by uniting the

ideas of existence, power, might, knowledge, and happiness with that of

infinity, -- is absolutely immaterial, because not passive, while finite

spirits (which are both active and passive) are perhaps only bodies which

possess the power of thinking.

While the ideas of substances are referred to a reality without the mind as

their archetype, to which they are to conform and which they should image

and represent, \_Relations\_ (\_e.g.\_, husband, greater)
are free and immanent

products of the understanding. They are not copies of real things, but

represent themselves alone, are their own archetypes. We do not ask whether

they agree with things, but, conversely, whether things agree with them

(Book iv. 4.5). The mind reaches an idea of relation by placing two things

side by side and comparing them. If it perceives that a thing, or a

quality, or an idea begins to exist through the operation of some other

thing, it derives from this the idea of the causal relation, which is the

most comprehensive of all relations, since all that is actual or possible

can be brought under it. \_Cause\_ is that which makes another thing to begin

to be; \_effect\_, that which had its beginning from some other thing. The

production of a new quality is termed alteration; of artificial things,

making; of a living being, generation; of a new particle of matter,

creation. Next in importance is the relation of identity and diversity .

Since it is impossible for a thing to be in two different places at the

same time and for two things to be at the same time in the same place,

everything that at a given instant is in a given place is identical with

itself, and, on the other hand, distinct from everything else (no matter

how great the resemblance between them) that at the same moment exists in

another place. Space and time therefore form the
\_principium

individuationis\_. By what marks, however, may we recognize the identity of

an individual at different times and in different places? The identity of

inorganic matter depends on the continuity of the mass of atoms which

compose it; that of living beings upon the permanent organization of

their parts (different bodies are united into \_one\_ animal by a common

life); personal identity consists in the unity of self-consciousness, not

in the continuity of bodily existence (which is at once excluded by the

change of matter). The identity of the person or the ego must be carefully

distinguished from that of substance and of man. It would not be impossible

for the person to remain the same in a change of substances, in so far as

the different beings (for instance, the souls of Epicurus and Gassendi)

participated in the same self-consciousness; and, conversely, for a spirit

to appear in two persons by losing the consciousness of its previous

existence. Consciousness is the sole condition of the

self, or personal

identity. -- The determinations of space and time are for the most part

relations. Our answers to the questions "When?" "How long?" "How large?"

denote the distance of one point of time from another (\_e.g.\_, the birth of

Christ), the relation of one duration to another (of a revolution of the

sun), the relation of one extension to another well-known one taken as a

standard. Many apparently positive ideas and words, as young and old, large

and small, weak and strong, are in fact relative. They imply merely the

relation of a given duration of life, of a given size and strength, to that

which has been adopted as a standard for the class of things in question. A

man of twenty is called young, but a horse of like age, old; and neither of

these measures of time applies to stars or diamonds. Moral relations, which

are based on a comparison of man's voluntary actions with one of the three  $\,$ 

moral laws, will be discussed below.

The inquiry now turns from the origin of ideas to their cognitive value

or their \_validity\_, beginning (in the concluding chapters of the second

book) with the accuracy of single ideas, and advancing (in Book iv., which

is the most important in the whole work) to the truth of judgments. An idea

is real when it conforms to its archetype, whether this is a thing, real

or possible, or an idea of some other thing; it is adequate when the

conformity is complete. The idea of a four-sided triangle or of brave

cowardice is unreal or fantastical, since it is composed of incompatible

elements, and the idea of a centaur, since it unites simple ideas in a

way in which they do not occur in nature. The layman's ideas of law or of

chemical substances are real, but inadequate, since they have a general

resemblance to those of experts, and a basis in reality, but yet only

imperfectly represent their archetypes. Nay, further, our ideas of

substances are all inadequate, not only when they are taken for

representations of the inner essences of things (since we do not know these

essences), but also when they are considered merely as collections of

qualities. The copy never includes all the qualities of the thing, the less

so since the majority of these are powers, \_i.e.\_, consist in relations to

other objects, and since it is impossible, even in the case of a single

body, to discover all the changes which it is fitted to impart to, or

to receive from, other substances. Ideas of modes and relations are all

adequate, for they are their own archetypes, are not intended to represent

anything other than themselves, are images without originals. An idea of

this kind, however, though perfect when originally formed, may become

imperfect through the use of language, when it is unsuccessfully intended

to agree with the idea of some other person and denominated by a current

term. In the case of mixed modes and their names, therefore, the

compatibility of their elements and the possible existence of their objects

are not enough to secure their reality and their complete adequacy; in

order to be adequate they must, further, exactly conform to the meaning

connected with their names by their author, or in common use. Simple

ideas are best off, according to Locke, in regard both

to reality and to

adequacy. For the most part, it is true, they are not accurate copies of

the real qualities, of things, but only the regular effects of the powers

of things. But although real qualities are thus only the causes and not

the patterns of sensations, still simple ideas, by their constant

correspondence with real qualities, sufficiently fulfill their divinely

ordained end, to serve us as instruments of knowledge, i.e., in the

discrimination of things. -- An unreal and inadequate idea becomes false only

when it is referred to an object, whether this be the existence of a thing,

or its true essence, or an idea of other things. Truth and error belong

always to affirmations or negations, that is, to (it may be, tacit)

propositions. Ideas uncombined, unrelated, apart from judgments, ideas,

that is, as mere phenomena in the mind, are neither true nor false.

Knowledge is defined as the "perception of the connexion and agreement, or

disagreement and repugnancy" of two ideas; truth, as "the right joining or

separating of signs, \_i.e.\_, ideas or words." The object of knowledge

is neither single ideas nor the relations of ideas to things, but the

\_relations of ideas among themselves\_. This view was at once paradoxical

and pregnant. If all cognition, as Locke suggests in objection to his own

theory, consists in perceiving the agreement or disagreement of our ideas,

are not the visions of the enthusiast and the reasonings of sober thinkers

alike certain? are not the propositions, A fairy is not a centaur, and a

centaur is a living being, just as true as that a circle

is not a triangle,

and that the sum of the angles of a triangle is equal to two right angles?

The mind directly perceives nothing but its own ideas, but it seeks a

knowledge of things! If this is possible it can only be indirect

knowledge--the mind knows things through its ideas, and possesses criteria

which show that its ideas agree with things.

Two cases must be clearly distinguished, for a considerable number of our

ideas, viz., all complex ideas except those of substances, make no claim

to represent things, and consequently cannot represent them falsely. For

mathematical and moral ideas and principles, and the truth thereof, it is

entirely immaterial whether things and conditions correspondent to them

exist in nature or not. They are valid, even if nowhere actualized; they

are "eternal truths," not in the sense that they are known from childhood,

but in the sense that, as soon as known, they are immediately assented

to.[1] The case is different, however, with simple ideas and the ideas of

substances, which have their originals without the mind and which are to

correspond with these. In regard to the former we may always be certain

that they agree with real things, for since the mind can neither

voluntarily originate them (\_e.g.\_, cannot produce sensations of color

in the dark) nor avoid having them at will, but only receive them from

without, they are not creatures of the fancy, but the natural and regular

productions of external things affecting us. In regard to the latter, the

ideas of substances, we may be certain at least when the simple ideas which

compose them have been found so connected in experience. Perception has

an external cause, whose influence the mind is not able to withstand. The

mutual corroboration furnished by the reports of the different senses, the

painfulness of certain sensations, the clear distinction between ideas from

actual perception and those from memory, the possibility of producing and

predicting new sensations of an entirely definite nature in ourselves and

in others, by means of changes which we effect in the external world (e.g.

by writing down a word) -- these give further justification for the trust

which we put in the senses. No one will be so skeptical as to doubt in

earnest the existence of the things which he sees and touches, and to

declare his whole life to be a deceptive dream. The certitude which

perception affords concerning the existence of external objects is indeed

not an absolute one, but it is sufficient for the needs of life and the

government of our actions; it is "as certain as our happiness or misery,

beyond which we have no concernment, either of knowing or being." In regard

to the past the testimony of the senses is supplemented by memory, in

which certainty [in regard to the continued existence of things previously

perceived] is transformed into high probability; while in regard to the

existence of other finite spirits, numberless kinds of which may be

conjectured to exist, though their existence is quite beyond our powers of

perception, certitude sinks into mere (though wellgrounded) faith.

[Footnote 1: Thus it results that knowledge, although dependent on

experience for all its materials, extends beyond experience. The

understanding is completely bound in the reception of simple ideas; less so

in the combination of these into complex ideas; absolutely free in the act

of comparison, which it can omit at will; finally, again, completely bound

in its recognition of the relation in which the ideas it has chosen

to compare stand to one another. There is room for choice only in the

intermediate stage of the cognitive process; at the beginning (in the

reception of the simple ideas of perception, a, b, c, d), and at the end

(in judging how the concepts a b c and a b d stand related to each other),

the understanding is completely determined.]

More certain than our \_sensitive\_ knowledge of the existence of external

objects, are our immediate or \_intuitive\_ knowledge of our own existence

and our mediate or \_demonstrative\_ knowledge of the existence of God.

Every idea that we have, every pain, every thought assures us of our own

existence. The existence of God, however, as the infinite cause of all

reality, endowed with intelligence, will, and supreme power, is inferred

from the existence and constitution of the world and of ourselves. Reality

exists; the real world is composed of matter in motion and thinking beings,

and is harmoniously ordered. Since it is impossible for any real being to

be produced by nothing, and since we obtain no satisfactory answer to the

question of origin until we rise to something existent from all eternity,

we must assume as the cause of that which exists an Eternal Being, which

possesses in a higher degree all the perfections which

it has bestowed upon

the creatures. As the cause of matter and motion, and as the source of all

power, this Being must be omnipotent; as the cause of beauty and order in

the world, and, above all, as the creator of thinking beings, it must be

omniscient. But these perfections are those which we combine in the idea of God.

Intuitive knowledge is the highest of the three degrees of knowledge. It is

gained when the mind perceives the agreement or disagreement of two ideas

at first sight, without hesitation, and without the intervention of any

third idea. This immediate knowledge is self-evident, irresistible, and

exposed to no doubt. Knowledge is demonstrative when the mind perceives the

agreement (or disagreement) of two ideas, not by placing them side by side

and comparing them, but through the aid of other ideas. The intermediate

links are called proofs; their discovery is the work of the reason, and

quickness in finding them out is termed sagacity. The greater the number

of the intermediate steps, the more the clearness and distinctness of the

knowledge decreases, and the more the possibility of error increases.

In order for an argument ( $_{e}$ ,  $_{g}$ , that  $_{a}$  =  $_{d}$ ) to be conclusive, every

particular step in it (a = b, b = c, c = d) must possess intuitive

certainty. Mathematics is not the only example of demonstrative knowledge,

but the most perfect one, since in mathematics, by the aid of visible

symbols, the full equality and the least differences among ideas may be

exactly measured and sharply determined.

Besides real existence Locke, unsystematically enough, enumerates three

other sorts of agreement between ideas, -- in the perception of which he

makes knowledge consist, -- viz., identity or diversity (blue is not yellow),

relation (when equals are added to equals the results are equal), and

coexistence or necessary connexion (gold is fixed). We are best off in

regard to the knowledge of the first of these, "identity or diversity," for

here our intuition extends as far as our ideas, since we recognize every

idea, as soon as it arises, as identical with itself and different from

others. We are worst off in regard to "necessary connexion." We know

something, indeed, concerning the incompatibility or coexistence of certain

properties (\_e. g\_., that the same object cannot have two different sizes

or colors at the same time; that figure cannot exist apart from extension):

but it is only in regard to a few qualities and powers of bodies that we

are able to discover dependence and necessary connexion by intuitive or

demonstrative thought, while in most cases we are dependent on experience,

which gives us information concerning particular cases only, and affords no

guarantee that things are the same beyond the sphere of our observation and

experiment. Since empirical inquiry furnishes no certain and universal

knowledge, and since the assumption that like bodies will in the same

circumstances have like effects is only a conjecture from analogy, natural

science in the strict sense does not exist. Both mathematics and ethics,

however, belong in the sphere of the demonstrative knowledge of relations.

The principles of ethics are as capable of exact

demonstration as those of

arithmetic and geometry, although their underlying ideas are more complex,

more involved, hence more exposed to misunderstanding, and lacking in

visible symbols; though these defects can, and should, in part be made good

by careful and strictly consistent definitions. Such moral principles as

"where there is no property there is no injustice," or "no government

allows absolute liberty," are as certain as any proposition in Euclid.

The advantage of the mathematical and moral sciences over the physical

sciences consists in the fact that, in the former, the real and nominal

essences of their objects coincide, while in the latter they do not; and,

further, that the real essences of substances are beyond our knowledge. The

true inner constitution of bodies, the root whence all their qualities, and

the coexistence of these, necessarily proceed, is completely unknown to us;

so that we are unable to deduce them from it.

Mathematical and moral ideas,

on the other hand, and their relations, are entirely accessible, for they

are the products of our own voluntary operations. They are not copied from

things, but are archetypal for reality and need no confirmation from

experience. The connexion constituted by our understanding between the

ideas crime and punishment  $_{(e. g., the proposition: crime deserves)}$ 

punishment) is valid, even though no crime had ever been committed, and

none ever punished. Existence is not at all involved in universal

propositions; "general knowledge lies only in our own thoughts, and

consists barely in the contemplation of our own abstract

ideas" and their

relations. The truths of mathematics and ethics are both universal and

certain, while in natural science single observations and experiments are

certain, but not general, and general propositions are only more or less

probable. Both the particular experiments and the general conclusions are

of great value under certain circumstances, but they do not meet the

requirements of comprehensive and certain knowledge.

The \_extent\_ of our knowledge is very limited--much less, in fact, than

that of our ignorance. For our knowledge reaches no further than our ideas,

and the possibility of perceiving their agreements. Many things exist of

which we have no ideas--chiefly because of the fewness of our senses and

their lack of acuteness--and just as many of which our ideas are only

imperfect. Moreover, we are often able neither to command the ideas

which we really possess, or at least might attain, nor to perceive their

connexions. The ideas which are lacking, those which are undiscoverable,

those which are not combined, are the causes of the narrow limits of human knowledge.

There are two ways by which knowledge may be extended: by experience, on

the one hand, and, on the other, by the elevation of our ideas to a state

of clearness and distinctness, together with the discovery and systematic

arrangement of those intermediate ideas which exhibit the relation of other

ideas, in themselves not immediately comparable. The syllogism, as an

artificial form, is of little value in the perception of the agreements

between these intermediate and final terms, and of none whatever in the

discovery of the former. Analytical and identical propositions which merely

explicate the conception of the subject, but express nothing not already

known, are, in spite of their indefeasible certitude, valueless for the

extension of knowledge, and when taken for more than verbal explanations,

mere absurdities. Even those most general propositions, those "principles"

which are so much talked of in the schools, lack the utility which is so

commonly ascribed to them. Maxims are, it is true, fit instruments for the

communication of knowledge already acquired, and in learned disputations

may perform indispensable service in silencing opponents, or in bringing

the dispute to a conclusion; but they are of little or no use in the

discovery of new truth. It is a mistake to believe that special cases (as

5 = 2 + 3, or 5 = 1 + 4) are dependent on the truth of the abstract rule

(the whole is equal to the sum of its parts), that they are confirmed by

it and must be derived from it. The particular and concrete is not only

as clear and certain as the general maxim, but better known than this,

as well as earlier and more easily perceived. Nay, further, in cases

where ideas are confused and the meanings of words doubtful, the use of

axioms is dangerous, since they may easily lend the appearance of proved

truth to assertions which are really contradictory.

Between the clear daylight of certain knowledge and the dark night of

absolute ignorance comes the twilight of probability. We find ourselves

dependent on \_opinion\_ and presumption, or judgment

based upon probability,

when experience and demonstration leave us in the lurch and we are,

nevertheless, challenged to a decision by vital needs which brook no delay.

The judge and the historian must convince themselves from the reports of

witnesses concerning events which they have not themselves observed; and

everyone is compelled by the interests of life, of duty, and of eternal

salvation to form conclusions concerning things which lie beyond the limits

of his own perception and reflective thought, nay, which transcend all

human experience and rigorous demonstration whatever. To delay decision and

action until absolute certainty had been attained, would scarcely allow

us to lift a single finger. In cases concerning events in the past, the

future, or at a distance, we rely on the testimony of others (testing their

reports by considering their credibility as witnesses and the conformity of

the evidence to general experience in like cases); in regard to questions

concerning that which is absolutely beyond experience,
\_e.g.\_, higher

orders of spirits, or the ultimate causes of natural phenomena, analogy is

the only help we have. If the witnesses conflict among themselves, or with

the usual course of nature, the grounds \_pro\_ and \_con\_ must be carefully

balanced; frequently, however, the degree of probability attained is so

great that our assent is almost equivalent to complete certainty. No

one doubts,--although it is impossible for him to "know,"--that Caesar

conquered Pompey, that gold is ductile in Australia as elsewhere, that iron

will sink to-morrow as well as to-day. Thus opinion supplements the lack of

certain knowledge, and serves as a guide for belief and action, wherever

the general lot of mankind or individual circumstances prevent absolute certitude.

Although in this twilight region of opinion demonstrative proofs are

replaced merely by an "occasion" for "taking" a given fact or idea "as true

rather than false," yet assent is by no means an act of choice, as the

Cartesians had erroneously maintained, for in knowledge it is determined by

clearly discerned reasons, and in the sphere of opinion, by the balance of

probability. The understanding is free only in combining ideas, not in its

judgment concerning the agreement or the repugnancy of the ideas compared;

it lies within its own power to decide whether it will judge at all, and

what ideas it will compare, but it has no control over the result of the

comparison; it is impossible for it to refuse its assent to a demonstrated

truth or a preponderant probability.

In this recognition of objective and universally valid relations existing

among ideas, which the thinking subject, through comparisons voluntarily

instituted, discovers valid or finds given, but which it can neither alter

nor demur to, Locke abandons empirical ground (cf. p. 155) and approaches

the idealists of the Platonizing type. His inquiry divides into two very

dissimilar parts (a psychological description of the origin of ideas and a

logical determination of the possibility and the extent of knowledge), the

latter of which is, in Locke's opinion, compatible with the former, but

which could never have been developed from it. The

rationalistic edifice

contradicts the sensationalistic foundation. Locke had hoped to show the

value and the limits of knowledge by an inquiry into the origin of ideas,

but his estimate of this value and these limits cannot be proved from the

\_a posteriori\_ origin of ideas--it can only be maintained in despite of

this, and stands in need of support from some (rationalistic) principle

elsewhere obtained. Thinkers who trace back all simple ideas to outer and

inner perception we expect to reject every attempt to extend knowledge

beyond the sphere of experience, to declare the combinations of ideas

which have their origin in sensation trustworthy, and those which are

formed without regard to perception, illusory; or else, with Protagoras,

to limit knowledge to the individual perceiving subject, with a consequent

complete denial of its general validity. But exactly the opposite of all

these is found in Locke. The remarkable spectacle is presented of a

philosopher who admits no other sources of ideas than perception and the

voluntary combination of perceptions, transcending the limits of experience

with proofs of the divine existence, viewing with suspicion the ideas of

substance formed at the instance of experience, and reducing natural

science to the sphere of mere opinion; while, on the other hand, he

ascribes reality and eternal validity to the combinations of ideas formed

independently of perception, which are employed by mathematics and ethics,

and completely abandons the individualistic position in his naïve faith in

the impregnable validity of the relations of ideas, which is evident to all

who turn their attention to them. The ground for the universal validity of

the relations among ideas as well as of our knowledge of them, naturally

lies not in their empirical origin (for my experience gives information to

me alone, and that only concerning the particular case in question), but in

the uniformity of man's rational constitution. If two men really have the

same ideas--not merely think they have because they use similar

language -- it is impossible, according to Locke, that they should hold

different opinions concerning the relation of their ideas. With this

conviction, that the universal validity of knowledge is rooted in the

uniformity of man's rational constitution, and the further one, that we

attain certain knowledge only when things conform to our ideas, Locke

closely approaches Kant; while his assumption of a fixed order of relations

among ideas, which the individual understanding cannot refuse to recognize,

and the typical character assigned to mathematics, associate him with

Malebranche and Spinoza. In view of these points of contact with the

rationalistic school and his manifold dependence on its founder, we may

venture the paradox, that Locke may not only be termed a Baconian with

Cartesian leanings, but (almost) a Cartesian influenced by Bacon. The

possibility must not be forgotten, however, that rationalistic suggestions

came to him also from Galileo, Hobbes, and Newton.[1]

[Footnote 1: Cf. the article by Benno Erdmann cited p. 156, note.]

Intermediate between knowledge and opinion stands faith as a form of assent

which is based on testimony rather than on deductions of the reason,

but whose certitude is not inferior to that of knowledge, since it is a

communication from God, who can neither deceive nor be deceived. Faith

and the certainty thereof depend on reason, in so far as reason alone can

determine whether a divine revelation has really been made and the meaning

of the words in which the revelation has come down to us. In determining

the boundaries of faith and reason Locke makes use of the

distinction--which has become famous--between things above reason,

according to reason, and contrary to reason. Our conviction that God exists

is according to reason; the belief that there are more gods than one, or

that a body can be in two different places at the same time, contrary

to reason; the former is a truth which can be demonstrated on rational

grounds, the latter an assumption incompatible with our clear and distinct

ideas. In the one case revelation confirms a proposition of which we

were already certain; in the other an alleged revelation is incapable

of depriving our certain knowledge of its force. Above reason are those

principles whose probability and truth cannot be shown by the natural use

of our faculties, as that the dead shall rise again and the account of the

fall of part of the angels. Among the things which are not contrary to

reason belong miracles, for they contradict opinion based on the usual

course of nature, it is true, but not our certain knowledge; in spite of

their supernatural character they deserve willing acceptance, and receive

it, when they are well attested, whereas principles

contrary to reason must

be unconditionally rejected as a revelation from God.

Locke's demand for

the subjection of faith to rational criticism assures him an honorable

place in the history of English deism. He enriched the philosophy of

religion by two treatises of his own: \_The Reasonableness of Christianity ,

1695, and three \_Letters on Tolerance\_, 1689-1692. The former transfers the

center of gravity of the Christian religion from history to the doctrine of

redemption; the \_Letters\_ demand religious freedom,
mutual tolerance among

the different sects, and the separation of Church and State. Those sects

alone are to receive no tolerance which themselves exercise none, and which

endanger the well-being of society; together with atheists, who are

incapable of taking oaths. In other respects it is the duty of the state to

protect all confessions and to favor none.

%(b) Practical Philosophy.%--Locke contributed to practical philosophy

important suggestions concerning freedom, morality, politics, and

education. Freedom is the "power to begin or forbear, continue or put an

end to" actions (thoughts and motions). It is not destroyed by the fact

that the will is always moved by desire, more exactly, by uneasiness under

present circumstances, and that the decision is determined by the judgment

of the understanding. Although the result of examination is itself

dependent on the unalterable relations of ideas, it is still in our power

to decide whether we will consider at all, and what ideas we will take into

consideration. Not the thought, not the determination of the will, is free,

but the person, the mind; this has the power to suspend the prosecution of

desire, and by its judgment to determine the will, even in opposition

to inclination. Four stages must, consequently, be distinguished in the

volitional process: desire or uneasiness; the deliberative combination of

ideas; the judgment of the understanding; determination. Freedom has its

place at the beginning of the second stage: it is open to me to decide

whether to proceed at all to consideration and final judgment concerning a

proposed action; thus to prevent desire from directly issuing in movements;

and, according to the result of my examination, perhaps, to substitute for

the act originally desired an opposite one. Without freedom, moral judgment

and responsibility would be impossible. The above appears to us to

represent the essence of Locke's often vacillating discussion of freedom

(II. 21). Desire is directed to pleasure; the will obeys the understanding,

which is exalted above motives of pleasure and the passions. Everything is

physically good which occasions and increases pleasure in us, which removes

or diminishes pain, or contributes to the attainment of some other good and

the avoidance of some other evil. Actions, on the contrary, are morally

good when they conform to a rule by which they are judged. Whoever

earnestly meditates on his welfare will prefer moral or rational good to

sensuous good, since the former alone vouchsafes true happiness. God has

most intimately united virtue and general happiness, since he has made the

preservation of human society dependent on the exercise of virtue.

The mark of a law for free beings is the fact that it apportions reward for

obedience and punishment for disobedience. The laws to which an action must

conform in order to deserve the predicate "good" are three in number

(II. 28): by the divine law "men judge whether their actions are sins

or duties"; by the civil law, "whether they be criminal or innocent"

(deserving of punishment or not); by the law of opinion or reputation,

"whether they be virtues or vices." The first of these laws threatens

immorality with future misery; the second, with legal punishments; the

third, with the disapproval of our fellow-men.

The third law, the law of opinion or reputation, called also philosophical,

coincides on the whole, though not throughout, with the first, the divine

law of nature, which is best expressed in Christianity, and which is the

true touchstone of the moral character of actions. While Locke, in his

polemic against innate ideas, had emphasized the diversity of moral

judgments among individuals and nations (as a result of which an action is

condemned in one place and praised as virtuous in another), he here gives

prominence to the fact of general agreement in essentials, since it is only

natural that each should encourage by praise and esteem that which is to

his advantage, while virtue evidently conduces to the good of all who

come into contact with the virtuous. Amid the greatest diversity of moral

judgments virtue and praise, vice and blame, go together, while in general

that is praised which is really praiseworthy--even the vicious man approves

the right and condemns that which is faulty, at least in

others. Locke was

the first to call attention to general approval as an external mark of

moral action, a hint which the Scottish moralists subsequently exploited.

The objection that he reduced morality to the level of the conventional is

unjust, for the law of opinion and reputation did not mean for him the

true principle of morality, but only that which controls the majority of

mankind--If anyone is inclined to doubt that commendation and disgrace are

sufficient motives to action, he does not understand mankind; there is

hardly one in ten thousand insensible enough to endure in quiet the

constant disapproval of society. Even if the lawbreaker hopes to escape

punishment at the hands of the state, and puts out of mind the thought of

future retribution, he can never escape the disapproval of his misdeeds

on the part of his fellows. In entire harmony with these views is Locke's

advice to educators, that they should early cultivate the love of esteem in their pupils.

Of the four principles of morals which Locke employs side by side, and in

alternation, without determining their exact relations-the reason, the

will of God, the general good (and, deduced from this, the approval of

our fellow-men), self-love--the latter two possess only an accessory

significance, while the former two co-operate in such a way that the one

determines the content of the good and the other confirms it and gives

it binding authority. The Christian religion does the reason a threefold

service--it gives her information concerning our duty, which she could have

reached herself, indeed, without the help of revelation, but not with

the same certitude and rapidity; it invests the good with the majesty of

absolute obligation by proclaiming it as the command of God; it increases

the motives to morality by its doctrines of immortality and future

retribution. Although Locke thus intimately joins virtue with earthly joy

and eternal happiness, and although he finds in the expectation of heaven

or hell a welcome support for the will in its conflict with the passions,

we must remember that he values this regard for the results and rewards of

virtue only as a subsidiary motive, and does not esteem it as in itself

ethical: eternal happiness forms, as it were, the "dowry" of virtue,

which adds to its true value in the eyes of fools and the weak, though it

constitutes neither its essence nor its basis. Virtue seems to the wise man

beautiful and valuable enough even without this, and yet the commendations

of philosophers gain for her but few wooers. The crowd is attracted to her

only when it is made clear to it that virtue is the "best policy."

In politics Locke is an opponent of both forms of absolutism, the despotic

absolutism of Hobbes and the patriarchal absolutism of Filmer (died 1647;

his \_Patriarcha\_ declared hereditary monarchy a divine institution), and

a moderate exponent of the liberal tendencies of Milton (1608-74) and

Algernon Sidney (died 1683; \_Discourses concerning Government ). The two

\_Treatises on Civil Government\_, 1690, develop, the first negatively, the

second positively, the constitutional theory with direct reference to the

political condition of England at the time. All men are born free and with

like capacities and rights. Each is to preserve his own interests, without

injuring those of others. The right to be treated by every man as a

rational being holds even prior to the founding of the state; but then

there is no authoritative power to decide conflicts. The state of nature is

not in itself a state of war, but it would lead to this, if each man should

himself attempt to exercise the right of self-protection against injury. In

order to prevent acts of violence there is needed a civil community, based

on a free contract, to which each individual member shall transfer his

freedom and power. Submission to the authority of the state is a free act,

and, by the contract made, natural rights are guarded, not destroyed;

political freedom is obedience to self-imposed law, subordination to the

common will expressing itself in the majority. The political power is

neither tyrannical, for arbitrary rule is no better than the state of

nature, nor paternal, for rulers and subjects are on an equality in the use

of the reason, which is not the case with parents and children. The

supreme power is the legislative, intrusted by the community to its chosen

representatives -- the laws should aim at the general good. Subordinate

to the legislative power, and to be kept separate from it, come the two

executing powers, which are best united in a single hand (the king), viz.,

the executive power (administrative and judicial), which carries the laws

into effect, and the federative power, which defends the community against

external foes. The ruler is subject to the law. If the

government, through

violation of the law, has become unworthy of the power intrusted to it, and

has forfeited it, sovereign authority reverts to the source whence it

was derived, that is, to the people. The people decides whether its

representatives and the monarch have deserved the confidence placed in

them, and has the right to depose them, if they exceed their authority. As

the sworn obedience (of the subjects) is to the law alone, the ruler who

acts contrary to law has lost the right to govern, has put himself in a

state of hostility to the people, and revolution becomes merely necessary  $% \left( 1\right) =\left( 1\right) +\left( 1\right) +$ 

defense against aggression.

Montesquieu made these political ideas of Locke the common property of

Europe.[1] Rousseau did a like service for Locke's pedagogical views, given

in the modest but important \_Thoughts concerning Education , 1693. The

aim of education should not be to instill anything into the pupil, but to

develop everything from him; it should guide and not master him, should

develop his capacities in a natural way, should rouse him to independence,

not drill him into a scholar. In order to these ends thorough and  $% \left( 1\right) =\left( 1\right) +\left( 1\right) +$ 

affectionate consideration of his individuality is requisite, and private

instruction is, therefore, to be preferred to public instruction. Since it

is the business of education to make men useful members of society, it must

not neglect their physical development. Learning through play and object

teaching make the child's task a delight; modern languages are to be

learned more by practice than by systematic study. The chief difference

between Locke and Rousseau is that the former sets great value on arousing

the sense of esteem, while the latter entirely rejects this as an educational instrument.

[Footnote 1: Cf. Theod. Pietsch, \_Ueber das Verhältniss der politischen
Theorien Lockes zu Montesquieus Lehre von der Teilung der Gewalten\_ Berlin dissertation, Breslau, 1887.]

## CHAPTER V.

ENGLISH PHILOSOPHY IN THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY.

Besides the theory of knowledge, which forms the central doctrine in his

system, Locke had discussed the remaining branches of philosophy, though in

less detail, and, by his many-sided stimulation, had posited problems

for the Illumination movement in England and in France. Now the several

disciplines take different courses, but the afterinfluence of his powerful

mind is felt on every hand. The development of deism from Toland on is

under the direct influence of his "rational

Christianity"; the ethics of

Shaftesbury stands in polemic relation to his denial of everything innate;

and while Berkeley and Hume are deducing the consequences of his theory of

knowledge, Hartley derives the impulse to a new form of psychology from his

chapter on the association of ideas.

## %1. Natural Philosophy and Psychology.%

In Locke's famous countryman, Isaac Newton (1642-1727),[1] the modern

investigation of nature attains the level toward which it had striven, at

first by wishes and demands, gradually, also, in knowledge and achievement,

since the end of the mediaeval period. Mankind was not able to discard at

a stroke its accustomed Aristotelian view of nature, which animated things

with inner, spirit-like forces. A full century intervened between Telesius

and Newton, the concept of natural law requiring so long a time to break

out of its shell. A tremendous revolution in opinion had to be effected

before Newton could calmly promulgate his great principle, "Abandon

substantial forms and occult qualities and reduce natural phenomena to

mathematical laws," before he could crown the discoveries of Galileo and

Kepler with his own. For this successful union of Bacon's experimental

induction with the mathematical deduction of Descartes, this combination of

the analytic and the synthetic methods, which was shown in the demand

for, and the establishment of, mathematically formulated natural laws,

presupposes that nature is deprived of all inner life [2] and all

qualitative distinctions, that all that exists is compounded of uniformly

acting parts, and that all that takes place is conceived as motion. With

this Hobbes's programme of a mechanical science of nature is fulfilled. The

heavens and the earth are made subject to the same law of gravitation. How

far Newton himself adhered to the narrow meaning of mechanism (motion from

pressure and impulse), is evident from the fact that, though he is often

honored as the creator of the dynamical view of nature, he rejected actio

in distans as absurd, and deemed it indispensable to

assume some "cause" of gravity (consisting, probably, in the impact of imponderable material particles). It was his disciples who first ventured to proclaim gravity as the universal force of matter, as the "primary quality of all bodies" (so Roger Cotes in the preface to the second edition of the Principia , 1713). [Footnote 1: 1669-95 professor of mathematics in Cambridge, later resident in London; 1672, member, and, 1703, president of the Royal Society. Chief work, Philosophic Naturalis Principia Mathematica, 1687. Works , 1779 seq . On Newton cf. K. Snell, 1843; Durdik, Leibniz und Newton , 1869; Lange, History of Materialism , vol. i. p. 306 seq .] [Footnote 2: That the mathematical view of nature, since it leaves room for quantitative distinctions alone, is equivalent to an examination of nature had been clearly recognized by Poiret. As he significantly remarked: The principles of the Cartesian physics relate merely to the "cadaver" of nature (Erud ., p. 260).] Newton resembles Boyle in uniting profound piety with the rigor of scientific thought. He finds the most certain proof for the existence of an intelligent creator in the wonderful arrangement of the world-machine, which does not need after-adjustment at the hands of its creator, and whose adaptation he praises as enthusiastically as he unconditionally rejects the mingling of teleological considerations in the explanation of physical phenomena. By this "physico-theological" argument he furnishes a welcome

support to deism. While the finite mind perceives in the

sensorium of the

brain the images of objects which come to it from the senses, God has all

things in himself, is immediately present in all, and cognizes them without

sense-organs, the expanse of the universe forming his sensorium.

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The transfer of mechanical views to psychical phenomena was also

accompanied by the conviction that no danger to faith in God would

result therefrom, but rather that it would aid in its support. The chief

representatives of this movement, which followed the example of Gay,

were the physician, David Hartley[1] (1704-57), and his pupil, Joseph

Priestley,[2] a dissenting minister and natural scientist (born 1733, died

in Philadelphia 1804; the discoverer of oxygen gas, 1774).

The fundamental position of these psychologists is expressed in two

principles: (1) all cognitive and motive life is based on the mechanism of

psychical elements, the highest and most complex inner phenomena (thoughts,

feelings, volitions) are produced by the combination of simple ideas,

that is, they arise through the "association of ideas "; (2) all inner

phenomena, the complex as well as the simple, are accompanied by, or rather

depend on, more or less complicated physical phenomena, viz., nervous

processes and brain vibrations. Although Hartley and Priestley are agreed

in their demand for an associational and physiological treatment of

psychology, and in the attempt to give one, they differ in this, that

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Hartley cautiously speaks only of a parallelism, a
correspondence between
mental and cerebral processes, and rejects the
materialistic interpretation
of inner phenomena, pointing out that the heterogeneity
of motion and ideas
forbids the reduction of the latter to the former, and
that psychological
analysis never reaches corporeal but only psychical
elements. Moreover, it
is only with reluctance that, conscious of the critical
character of the
conclusion, he admits the dependence of brain vibrations
on the mechanical
laws of the material world and the thoroughgoing
determinateness of the
human will, consoling himself with the belief that moral
responsibility
nevertheless remains intact. Priestley, on the contrary,
boldly avows the
materialistic and deterministic consequences of his
position, holds that
psychical phenomena are not merely accompanied by
material motions but
consist in them (thought is a function of the brain),
and makes psychology,
as the physics of the nerves, a part of physiology. The
denial of
immortality and the divine origin of the world is,
however, by no means
to follow from materialism. Priestley not only combated
the atheism of
Holbach, but also entered the deistic ranks with works
of his own on
Natural Religion and the Corruptions of Christianity.
[Footnote 1: Hartley, Observations on Man, his Frame,
his Duties, his
Expectations . 1749.]
[Footnote 2: Priestley, Hartley's Theory of the Human
Mind on the
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Principles of the Association of Ideas , 1775;

Matter and Spirit\_, 1777; The Doctrine of Philosophical

Disquisitions relating to

Necessity\_, 1777;
\_Free Discussions of the Doctrines of Materialism\_, 1778
(against Richard
Price's \_Letters on Materialism and Philosophical
Necessity\_). Cf. on
both Schoenlank's dissertation, \_Hartley und Priestley,
die Begründer des
Assoziationismus in England\_, 1882.]

As early as in Hartley[1] the principle, which is so important for ethics, appears that things and actions (e.g., promotion of the good of others) which at first are sought and done because they are means to our own enjoyment, in time come to have a direct worth of their own, apart from the original egoistic end. James Mill (1829) has repeated this thought in later times. As fame becomes an immediate object of desire to the ambitious man. and gold to the miser, so, through association, the impulse toward that which will secure approval may be transformed into the endeavor after that which deserves approval.

[Footnote 1: Cf. Jodl, \_Geschichte der Ethik\_, vol. i. p. 197 \_seq\_.]

Among later representatives of the Associational school we may mention Erasmus Darwin \_(Zoönomia, or the Laws of Organic Life\_, 1794-96).

## %2. Deism%.

As Bacon and Descartes had freed natural science, Hobbes, the state, and Grotius, law from the authority of the Church and had placed them on an independent basis, \_i.e.\_, the basis of nature and reason, so deism[1]

seeks to free religion from Church dogma and blind historical faith, and to deduce it from natural knowledge. In so far as deism finds both the source and the test of true religion in reason, it is rationalism; in so far as it appeals from the supernatural light of revelation and inspiration to the natural light of reason, it is naturalism; in so far as revelation and its

records are not only not allowed to restrict rational criticism, but are made the chief object of criticism, its adherents are

made the chief object of criticism, its adherents are freethinkers.

[Footnote 1: Cf. Lechler's \_Geschichte des Englischen Deismus\_, 1841, which is rigorously drawn from the sources. [Hunt, \_History of Religious Thought in England\_, 1871-73 [1884]; Leslie Stephen, \_History of English Thought in the Eighteenth Century\_, 1876 [1880]; Cairns, \_Unbelief in the Eighteenth

Century , 1881.]]

The general principles of deism may be compressed into a few theses. There is a natural religion, whose essential content is morality; this comprises not much more than the two maxims, Believe in God and Do your duty.

Positive religions are to be judged by this standard. The elements in them which are added to natural religion, or conflict with it, are superfluous and harmful additions, arbitrary decrees of men, the work of cunning rulers and deceitful priests. Christianity, which in its original form was the perfect expression of the true religion of reason, has experienced great corruptions in its ecclesiastical development, from which it must now be purified.

These principles are supported by the following arguments: Truth is one

and there is but one true religion. If the happiness of men depends on the

fulfilment of her commands, these must be comprehensible to every man and

must have been communicated to him; and since a special revelation and

legislation could not come to the knowledge of all, they can be no other

than the laws of duty inscribed on the human heart. In order to salvation,

then, we need only to know God as creator and judge, and to fulfill his

commands, \_i.e.\_. to live a moral life. The one true religion has been

communicated to man in two forms, through the inner natural revelation of

reason, and the outer historical revelation of the Gospel. Since both have

come from God they cannot be contradictory. Accordingly natural religion

and the true one among the positive religions do not differ in their

content, but only in the manner of their promulgation. Reason tries

historical religion by the standard furnished by natural religion, and

distinguishes actual from asserted revelation by the harmony of its

contents with reason: the deist believes in the Bible because of the

reasonableness of its teachings; he does not hold these teachings true

because they are found in the Bible. If a positive religion contains

less than natural religion it is incomplete; if it contains more it is

tyrannical, since it imposes unnecessary requirements. The authority of

reason to exercise the office of a judge in regard to the credibility of

revelation is beyond doubt; indeed, apart from it there is no means of

attaining truth, and the acceptance of an external revelation as genuine,

and not merely as alleged to be such, is possible only for those who have

already been convinced of God's existence by the inner light of reason.

To these logical considerations is added an historical position, which,

though only cursorily indicated at the beginning, is evidenced in

increasing detail as the deistic movement continues on its course. Natural

religion is always and everywhere the same, is universal and necessary, is

perfect, eternal, and original. As original, it is the earliest religion,

and as old as the world; as perfect, it is not capable of improvement, but

only of corruption and restoration. Twice it has existed in perfect purity,

as the religion of the first men and as the religion of Christ. Twice

it has been corrupted, in the pre-Christian period by idolatry, which

proceeded from the Egyptian worship of the dead, in the period after Christ

by the love of miracle and blind reverence for authority. In both cases the

corruption has come from power-loving priests, who have sought to frighten

and control the people by incomprehensible dogmas and ostentations,

mysterious ceremonies, and found their advantage in the superstition of the

multitude, -- each new divinity, each new mystery meaning a gain for them. As

they had corrupted the primitive religion into polytheism, so Christianity

was corrupted by conforming it to the prejudices of those to be converted,

in whose eyes the simplicity of the new doctrine would have been no

recommendation for it. The Jew sought in it an echo of the Law, the heathen

longed for his festivals and his occult philosophy; so it was burdened

with unprofitable ceremonial observances and needless profundity, it was

Judaized and heathenized. It was inevitable that the doctrines of original

sin, of satisfaction and atonement should prove especially objectionable to

the purely rational temper of the deists. Neither the guilt of others (the

sin of our ancestors) nor the atonement of others (Christ's death on the

cross) can be imputed to us; Christ can be called the Savior only by way of

metaphor, only in so far as the example of his death leads us on to faith

and obedience for ourselves. The name atheism, which, it is true, orthodoxy

held ready for every belief incorrect according to its standard, was on the

contrary undeserved. The deists did not attack Christian revelation, still

less belief in God. They considered the atheist bereft of reason, and they

by no means esteemed historical revelation superfluous. The end of the

latter was to stir the mind to move men to reflection and conversion, to

transform morals, and if anyone declared it unnecessary because it contains

nothing but natural truths, he was referred to the works of Euclid, which

certainly contain nothing which is not founded in the reason, but which no

one but a fool will consider unnecessary in the study of mathematics.

That which we have here summarized as the general position of deism, gained

gradual expression through the regular development and specialization of

deistic ideas in individual representatives of the movement. The chief

points and epochs were marked by Toland's \_Christianity not Mysterious\_,

1696; Collins's \_Discourse of Freethinking\_, 1713; Tindal's \_Christianity

as Old as the Creation\_, 1730; and Chubb's \_True Gospel of Jesus Christ\_,

1738. The first of these demands a critique of revelation, the second

defends the right of free investigation, the third declares the religion

of Christ, which is merely a revived natural religion, to be the oldest

religion, the fourth reduces it entirely to moral life.

The deistic movement was called into life by Lord Herbert of Cherbury (pp.

79-80) and continued by Locke, in so far as the latter had intrusted to

reason the discrimination of true from false revelation, and had admitted

in Christianity elements above reason, though not things contrary to

reason. Following Locke, John Toland (1670-1722) goes a step further with

the proof that the Gospel not only contains nothing contrary to reason, but

also nothing above reason, and that no Christian doctrine is to be called

mysterious. To the demand that we should worship what we do not comprehend,

he answers that reason is the only basis of certitude, and alone decides on

the divinity of the Scriptures, by a consideration of their contents. The

motive which impels us to assent to a truth must lie in reason, not in

revelation, which, like all authority and experience, is merely the way by

which we attain the knowledge of the truth; it is a means of instruction,

not a ground of conviction. All faith has knowledge and understanding for

its conditions, and is rational conviction. Before we can put our trust in

the Scriptures, we must be convinced that they were in fact written by the

authors to whom they are ascribed, and must consider

whether these men,

their deeds, and their works, were worthy of God. The fact that God's

inmost being is for us inscrutable does not make him a mystery, for even

the common things of nature are known to us only by their properties.

Miracles are also in themselves nothing

incomprehensible; they are

simply enhancements of natural laws beyond their ordinary operations, by

supernatural assistance, which God vouchsafes but rarely and only for

extraordinary ends. Toland explains the mysteries smuggled into the ethical

religion of Christianity as due to the toleration of Jewish and heathen

customs, to the entrance of learned speculation, and to the selfish

inventions of the clergy and the rulers. The Reformation itself had not

entirely restored the original purity and simplicity.

Thus far Toland the deist. In his later writings, the five Letters to

Serena\_, 1704, addressed to the Prussian queen, Sophia Charlotte, and

the \_Pantheisticon\_ (Cosmopoli, 1720), he advances toward a hylozoistic pantheism.

The first of the Letters discusses the prejudices of mankind; the second,

the heathen doctrine of immortality; the third, the origin of idolatry;

while the fourth and fifth are devoted to Spinoza, the chief defect in

whose philosophy is declared to be the absence of an explanation of motion.

Motion belongs to the notion of matter as necessarily as extension and

impenetrability. Matter is always in motion; rest is only the reciprocal

interference of two moving forces. The differences of things depend on the

various movements of the particles of matter, so that it is motion which

individualizes matter in general into particular things. As the Letters

ascribe the purposive construction of organic beings to a divine reason, so

the \_Pantheisticon\_ also stops short before it reaches the extreme of naked

materialism. Everything is from the whole; the whole is infinite, one,

eternal, all-rational. God is the force of the whole, the soul of

the world, the law of nature. The treatise includes a liturgy of the

pantheistic society with many quotations from the ancient poets.

Anthony Collins (1676-1729), in his \_Discourse of Freethinking , shows

the right of free thought \_(i. e\_., of judgment on rational grounds) in

general, from the principle that no truth is forbidden to us, and that

there is no other way by which we can attain truth and free ourselves from

superstition, and the right to apply it to God and the Bible in particular,

from the fact that the clergy differ concerning the most important matters.

The fear that the differences of opinion which spring from freethinking may

endanger the peace of society lacks foundation; on the contrary, it is

only restriction of the freedom of thought which leads to disorders, by

weakening moral zeal. The clergy are the only ones who condemn liberty of

thought. It is sacrilege to hold that error can be beneficial and truth

harmful. As a proof that freethinking by no means corrupts character,

Collins gives in conclusion a list of noble freethinkers from Socrates down

to Locke and Tillotson. Among the replies to the views of Collins we may

mention the calmly objective Boyle Lectures by Ibbot, and the sharp and

witty letter of Richard Bentley, the philologist.

Neither of these attacks

Collins's leading principle, both fully admitting the right to employ the

reason, even in religious questions; but they dispute the implication that

freethinking is equivalent to contentious opposition. On the one hand, they

maintain that Collins's thinking is too free, that is, unbridled, hasty,

presumptuous, and paradoxical; on the other, that it is not free enough (from prejudice).

After Shaftesbury had based morality on a natural instinct for the

beautiful and had made it independent of religion, as well as served the

cause of free thought by a keenly ironical campaign against enthusiasm and

orthodoxy, and Clarke had furnished the representatives of natural religion

a useful principle of morals in the objective rationality of things, the

debate concerning prophecy and miracles[1] threatened to dissipate the

deistic movement into scattered theological skirmishes. At this juncture

Matthew Tindal (1657-1733) led it back to the main question. His

\_Christianity as Old as the Creation\_ is the doomsday book of deism.

It contains all that has been given above as the core of this view of

religion. Christ came not to bring in a new doctrine, but to exhort to

repentance and atonement, and to restore the law of nature, which is as old

as the creation, as universal as reason, and as unchangeable as God,

human nature, and the relations of things, which we should respect in our

actions. Religion is morality; more exactly, it is the

free, constant

disposition to do as much good as possible, and thereby to promote the

glory of God and our own welfare. For the harmony of our conduct with

the rules of reason constitutes our perfection, and on this depends our

happiness. Since God is infinitely blessed and self-sufficient his purpose

in the moral law is man's happiness alone. Whatever a positive religion

contains beyond the moral law is superstition, which puts emphasis on

worthless trivialities. The true religion occupies the happy mean between

miserable unfaith, on the one hand, and timorous superstition, wild

fanaticism, and pietistical zeal on the other. In proclaiming the

sovereignty of reason in the sphere of religion as well as elsewhere, we

are only openly demanding what our opponents have tacitly acknowledged in

practice \_(e. g\_.> in allegorical interpretation) from time immemorial. God

has endowed us with reason in order that we should by it distinguish truth from falsehood.

[Footnote 1: The chief combatant in the conflict over the argument from

prophecy, which was called forth by Whiston's corruption hypothesis,

was Collins  $\_(A \ Discourse \ of \ the \ Grounds \ and \ Reasons \ of \ the \ Christian$ 

Religion\_, 1724). Christianity is based on Judaism; its fundamental article

is that Jesus is the prophesied Messiah of the Jews, its chief proof the

argument from Old Testament prophecy, which, it is true, depends on the

typical or allegorical interpretation of the passages in question. Whoever

rejects this cuts away the ground from under the Christian revelation,

which is only the allegorical import of the revelation of the Jews.--The

second proof of revelation, the argument from miracles, was shaken by

Thomas Woolston \_(Six Discourses on the Miracles of our Saviour , 1727-30),

by his extension of the allegorical interpretation to these also. He

supported himself in this by the authority of the Church Fathers, and,

above all, by the argument that the accounts of the miracles, if taken

literally, contradict all sense and understanding. The unavoidable doubts

which arise concerning the literal interpretation of the resurrection of

the dead, the healing of the sick, the driving out of devils, and the other

miracles, prove that these were intended only as symbolic representations

of the mysterious and wonderful effects which Jesus was to accomplish. Thus

Jairus's daughter means the Jewish Church, which is to be revived at the

second coming of Christ; Lazarus typifies humanity, which will be raised

again at the last day; the account of the bodily resurrection of Jesus is

a symbol of his spiritual resurrection from his grave in the letter of

Scripture. Sherlock, whose \_Trial of the Witnesses of the Resurrection of

Jesus was long considered a cogent answer to the attacks of Woolston,

was opposed by Peter Annet, who, without leaving the refuge of figurative

interpretation open, proceeded still more regardlessly in the discovery of

contradictory and incredible elements in the Gospel reports, and declared

all the scriptural writers together to be liars and falsifiers. If a man

believes in miracles as supernatural interferences with the regular course

of nature (and they must be so taken if they are to

certify to the divine origin of the Scriptures), he makes God mutable, and natural laws imperfect arrangements which stand in need of correction. The truth of religion is independent of all history.]

tallow-chandler), and from 1715 on a participant in deistic literature and

concerned to adapt the new ideas to the men of his class, preached in The

True Gospel of Jesus Christ\_ an honorable working-man's Christianity.,

Faith means obedience to the law of reason inculcated by Christ, not the

acceptance of the facts reported about him. The gospel of Christ was

preached to the poor before his death and his asserted resurrection and

ascension. It is probable that Christ really lived, because of the great

effect of his message; but he was a man like other men. His gospel is his

teaching, not his history, his own teaching, not that of his followers--the

reflections of the apostles are private opinions.

Christ's teaching

amounts, in effect, to these three fundamental principles: (1) Conform

to the rational law of love to God and one's neighbor; this is the only

ground of divine acceptance. (2) After transgression of the law, repentance

and reformation are the only grounds of divine grace and forgiveness. (3)

At the last day every one will be rewarded according to his works. By

proclaiming these doctrines, by carrying them out in his own pure life

and typical death, and by founding religio-ethical associations on the

principle of brotherly equality, Christ selected the means best fitted for

the attainment of his purpose, the salvation of human souls. His aim was

to assure men of future happiness (and of the earthly happiness connected

therewith), and to make them worthy of it; and this happiness can only be

attained when from free conviction we submit ourselves to the natural moral

law, which is grounded on the moral fitness of things. Everything which

leads to the illusion that the favor of God is attainable by any other

means than by righteousness and repentance, is pernicious; as, also, the

confusion of Christian societies with legal and civil societies, which

pursue entirely different aims.

Thomas Morgan \_(The Moral Philosopher, a Dialogue between the Christian

Deist, Philalethes, and the Christian Jew, Theophanes, 1737 seq\_.) stands

on the same ground as his predecessors, by holding that the moral truth of

things is the criterion of the divinity of a doctrine, that the Christian

religion is merely a restoration of natural religion, and that the apostles

were not infallible. Peculiar to him are the application of the first of

these principles to the Mosaic law, with the conclusion that this was not a

revelation; the complete separation of the New Testament from the Old (the

Church of Christ and the expected kingdom of the Jewish Messiah are as

opposed to each other as heaven and earth); and the endeavor to give a

more exact explanation of the origin of superstition, the pre-Christian  ${\bf r}$ 

manifestations of which he traces back to the fall of the angels, and those

since Christ to the intermixture of Jewish elements. He seeks to solve his

problem by a detailed critique of Israelitish history,

which is lacking in

sympathy but not in spirit, and in which, introducing modern relations

into the earliest times, he explains the Old Testament miracles in part as

myths, in part as natural phenomena, and deprives the heroes of the Jews of

their moral renown. The Jewish historians are ranked among the poets; the

God of Israel is reduced to a subordinate, local tutelary divinity; the

moral law of Moses is characterized as a civil code limited to external

conduct, to national and mundane affairs, with merely temporal sanctions,

and the ceremonial law as an act of worldly statecraft; David is declared

a gifted poet, musician, hypocrite, and coward; the prophets are made

professors of theology and moral philosophy; and Paul is praised as the

greatest freethinker of his time, who defended reason against authority

and rejected the Jewish ritual law as indifferent. Whatever is spurious in

Christianity is a remnant of Judaism, all its mysteries are misunderstood

and falsely (\_i.e.\_ literally) applied allegories. Out of regard for Jewish

prejudices Christ's death was figuratively described as sacrificial, as in

earlier times Moses had been forced to yield to the Egyptian superstitions

of his people. Morgan looks for the final victory of the rational morality

of the pure, Pauline, or deistic Christianity over the Jewish Christianity

of orthodoxy. Among the works of his opponents the following deserve

mention: William Warburton's \_Divine Legation of Moses,
and Samuel

Chandler's \_Vindication of the History of the Old Testament\_.

It maybe doubted whether Bolingbroke (died 1751; cf. p.

203) is to be

classed among the deists or among their opponents. On the one hand, he

finds in monotheism the original true religion, which has degenerated

into superstition through priestly cunning and fantastical philosophy; in

primitive Christianity, the system of natural religion, which has been

transformed into a complicated and contentious science by its weak,

foolish, or deceitful adherents; in theology, the corruption of religion;

in Bacon, Descartes, and Locke, types of untrammeled investigation. On

the other hand, he seeks to protect revelation from the reason whose

cultivation he has just commended, and to keep faith and knowledge

distinct, while he demands that the Bible, with all the undemonstrable

and absurd elements which it contains, be accepted on its own authority.

Religion is an instrument indispensable to the government for keeping the

people in subjection. Only the fear of a higher power, not the reason,

holds the masses in check; and the freethinkers do wrong in taking a bit

out of the mouth of the sensual multitude, when it were better to add to

those already there.

As Hume, the skeptic, leads empiricism to its fall, so Hume, the

philosopher of religion (see below), leads deism toward dissolution. Among

those who defended revealed Christianity against the deistical attacks we

may mention the names of Conybeare (1732) and Joseph Butler (1736). The

former argues from the imperfection and mutability of our reason to like

characteristics in natural religion. Butler (cf. p. 206) does not admit

that natural and revealed religion are mutually exclusive. Christian

revelation lends a higher authority to natural religion, in which she finds

her foundation, and adapts it to the given relations and needs of mankind,

adding, however, to the rational law of virtue new duties toward God the

Son and God the Holy Ghost. It is evident that in order to be able to deal

with their opponents, the apologetes are forced to accommodate themselves

to the deistic principle of a rational criticism of revelation.

Notwithstanding the fear which this principle inspired in the men of the

time, it soon penetrated the thought even of its opponents, and found

its way into the popular mind through the channels of the Illumination.

Although it was often defended and applied with violence and with a

superfluous hatred of the clergy, it forms the justifiable element in the

endeavors of the deists. It is a commonplace to-day that everything which

claims to be true and valid must justify itself before the criticism of

reason; but then this principle, together with the distinction between

natural and positive religion based upon it, exerted an enlightening and

liberating influence. The real flaw in the deistical theory, which was

scarcely felt as such, even by its opponents, was its lack of religious

feeling and all historical sense, a lack which rendered the idea acceptable

that religions could be "made," and priestly falsehoods become world-moving

forces. Hume was the first to seek to rise above this unspeakable

shallowness. There was a remarkable conflict between the

ascription to

man, on the one hand, of an assured treasure of religious knowledge in

the reason, and the abandonment of him, on the other, to the juggling of

cunning priests and despots. Thus the deists had no sense either for the

peculiarities of an inward religious feeling, which, in happy prescience,

rises above the earthly circle of moral duties to the world beyond, or for

the involuntary, historically necessary origin and growth of the particular

forms of religion. Here, again, we find that turning away from will and

feeling to thought, from history to nature, from the oppressive complexity

of that which has been developed to the simplicity of that which is

original, which we have noted as one of the most prominent characteristics of the modern period.

## %3. Moral Philosophy.%

The watchword of deism was "independence in religion"; that of modern

ethical philosophy is "independence in morals." Hobbes had given this out

in opposition to the mediaeval dependence of ethics on theology; now it was

turned against himself, for he had delivered morality from ecclesiastical

bondage only to subject it to the no less oppressive and unworthy yoke of

the civil power. Selfish consideration, so he had taught, leads men to

transfer by contract all power to the ruler. Right is that which the

sovereign enjoins, wrong that which he forbids. Thus morality was conceived

in a purely negative way as justice, and based on interest and agreement.

Cumberland, recognizing the one-sidedness of the first

of these positions,

announces the principle of universal benevolence, at which Bacon had hinted

before him, and in which he is followed by the school of Shaftesbury.

Opposition to the foundation of ethics on self-love and convention, again,

springs up in three forms, one idealistic, one logical, and one aesthetic.

Ethical ideas have not arisen artificially through shrewd calculation and

agreement, but have a natural origin. Cudworth, returning to Plato and

Descartes, assumes an innate idea of the good. Clarke and Woolston base

moral distinctions on the rational order of things, and characterize

the ethically good action as a logical truth translated into practice.

Shaftesbury derives ethical ideas and actions from a natural instinct for

judging the good and the beautiful. Moreover, Hobbes's ethics of interest

experiences, first, correction at the hands of Locke (who, along with a

complete recognition of the "legal" character of the good, distinguishes

the sphere of morality from that of mere law, and brings it under the

law of "reputation," hence of a "tacit" agreement), and then a frivolous

intensification under Mandeville and Bolingbroke. A preliminary conclusion

is reached in the ethical labors of Hume and Smith.

Richard Cumberland \_(De Legibus Naturae\_, 1672) turns to experience with

the questions, In what does morality consist? Whence does it arise? and

What is the nature of moral obligation? and finds these answers: Those

actions are good, or in conformity to the moral law of nature, which

promote the common good \_(commune bonum summa lex)\_.
Individual welfare

must be subordinated to the good of all, of which it forms only a part. The

psychological roots of virtuous action are the social and disinterested

affections, which nature has implanted in all beings, especially in those

endowed with reason. There is nothing in man more pleasing to God than

love. We recognize our obligation to the virtue of benevolence, or that God

commands it, from the rewards and punishments which we perceive to follow

the fulfillment or non-fulfillment of the law, -- the subordination of

individual to universal good is the only means of attaining true happiness

and contentment. Men are dependent on mutual benevolence. He who labors

for the good of the whole system of rational beings furthers thereby the

welfare of the individual parts, among whom he himself is one; individual

happiness cannot be separated from general happiness. All duties are

implied in the supreme one: Give to others, and preserve thyself. This

principle of benevolence, advanced by Cumberland with homely simplicity,

received in the later development of English ethics, for which it pointed

out the way, a more careful foundation.

The series of emancipations of morality begins with the Intellectual System

of Ralph Cud worth \_(The Intellectual System of the Universe , 1678; A

Treatise concerning Eternal and Immutable Morality\_, 1731). Ethical ideas

come neither from experience nor from civil legislation nor from the will

of God, but are necessary ideas in the divine and the human reason. Because

of their simplicity, universality, and immutability, it is impossible for

them to arise from experience, which never yields

anything but that which

is particular and mutable. It is just as impossible that they should spring

from political constitutions, which have a temporal origin, which are

transitory, and which differ from one another. For if obedience to positive

law is right and disobedience wrong, then moral distinctions must have

existed before the law; if, on the other hand, obedience to the civil law

is morally indifferent, then more than ever is it impossible that this

should be the basis of the moral distinctions in question. A law can bind

us only in virtue of that which is necessarily, absolutely, or per se

right; therefore the good is independent, also, of the will of God. The

absolutely good is an eternal truth which God does not create by an act of

his will, but which he finds present in his reason, and which, like the

other ideas, he impresses on created spirits. On the a priori ideas

depends the possibility of science, for knowledge is the perception of necessary truth.

In agreement with Cudworth that the moral law is dependent neither on human

compact nor on the divine will, Samuel Clarke (died 1729) finds the eternal

principles of justice, goodness, and truth, which God observes in his

government of the universe, and which should also be the quide of human

action, embodied in the nature of things or in their properties, powers,

and relations, in virtue of which certain things, relations, and modes

of action are suited to one another, and others not. Morality is the

subjective conformity of conduct to this objective fitness of things; the

good is the fitting. Moral rules, to which we are bound by conscience and

by rational insight, are valid independently of the command of God and of

all hope or fear in reference to the life to come, although the principles

of religion furnish them an effective support, and one which is almost

indispensable in view of the weakness of human nature. They are not

universally observed, indeed, but universally acknowledged; even the

vicious man cannot refrain from praising virtue in others. He who is

induced by the voice of passion to act contrary to the eternal relations

or harmony of things, contradicts his own reason in thus undertaking to

disturb the order of the universe; he commits the absurdity of willing that

things should be that which they are not. Injustice is in practice that

which falsity and contradiction are in theoretical affairs. In his

well-known controversy with Leibnitz, Clarke defends the freedom of the

will against the determinism of the German philosopher.

In William Wollaston (died 1724), with whom the logical point of view

becomes still more apparent, Clarke found a thinker who shared his

convictions that the subjective moral principle of interest was

insufficient, and, hence, an objective principle to be sought; that

morality consists in the suitableness of the action to the nature and

destination of the object, and that, in the last analysis, it is coincident

with truth. The highest destination of man is, on the one hand, to know the

truth, and, on the other, to express it in actions. That act is good whose

execution includes the affirmation (and its omission the

negation) of a

truth. According to the law of nature, a rational being ought so to conduct

himself that he shall never contradict a truth by his actions, \_i. e\_., to

treat each thing for what it is. Every immoral action is a false judgment;

the violation of a contract is a practical denial of it. The man who is

cruel to animals declares by his act that the creature maltreated is

something which in fact it is not, a being devoid of feeling. The murderer

acts as though he were able to restore life to his victim. He who, in

disobedience toward God, deals with things in a way contrary to their

nature, behaves as though he were mightier than the author of nature. To

this equation of truth and morality happiness is added as a third identical

member. The truer the pleasures of a being the happier it is; and a

pleasure is untrue whenever more (of pain) is given for it than it is

worth. A rational being contradicts itself when it pursues an irrational

pleasure. -- The course of moral philosophy has passed over the logical

ethics of Clarke and Wollaston as an abstract and unfruitful idiosyncrasy,

and it is certain that with both of these thinkers their plans were greater

than their performances. But the search for an ethical norm which should

be universally valid and superior to the individual will, did not lack

justification in contrast to the subjectivism of the other two schools of

the time--the school of interest and the school of benevolence, which made

virtue a matter of calculation or of feeling.

\* \* \* \* \*

The English ethics of the period culminates in Shaftesbury (1671-1713),

who, reared on the principles of his grandfather's friend Locke, formed

his artistic sense on the models of classical antiquity, to recall to the

memory of his age the Greek ideal of a beautiful humanity. Philosophy,

as the knowledge of ourselves and that which is truly good, a guide to

morality and happiness; the world and virtue, a harmony; the good, the

beautiful as well; the whole, a controlling force in the particular -- these

views, and his tasteful style of exposition, make Shaftesbury a modern

Greek; it is only his bitterness against Christianity which betrays the

son of the new era. Among the studies collected under the title

\_Characteristics of Men, Manners, Opinions, Times\_, 1711, the most

important are those on Enthusiasm, on Wit and Humor, on Virtue and Merit,  $% \left( 1\right) =\left( 1\right) \left( 1\right) +\left( 1\right) \left( 1\right) \left( 1\right) +\left( 1\right) \left( 1\right$ 

and the Moralists.[1]

[Footnote 1: Georg v. Gizycki has written on Shaftesbury's philosophy,

1876. [Cf. Fowler's \_Shaftesbury and Hutchison\_, English Philosophers

Series, 1882.--TR.]]

Shaftesbury's fundamental metaphysical concept is aesthetic: unity in

variety is for him the all-pervasive law of the world. In every case where

parts work in mutual dependence toward a common result, there rules a

central unity, uniting and animating the members. The lowest of these

substantial unities is the ego, the common source of our thoughts and

feelings. But as the parts of the organism are governed and held together

by the soul, so individuals are joined with one another

into species and

genera by higher unities. Each individual being is a member in a system of

creatures, which a common nature binds together.

Moreover, since order and

harmony are spread throughout the world, and no one thing exists out of

relation to all others and to the whole, the universe must be conceived

as animated by a formative power which works purposively; this all-ruling

unity is the soul of the world, the universal mind, the Deity. The finality

and beauty of those parts of the world which we can know justifies the

inference to a like constitution of those which are unapproachable, so that

we may be certain that the numerous evils which we find in the details,

work for the good of a system superior to them, and that all apparent

imperfections contribute to the perfection of the whole. As our philosopher

makes use of the idea of the world-harmony to support theism and the

theodicy, so, further, he derives the content of morality from it, thus

giving ethics a natural basis independent of selfinterest and conventional fancies.

A being is good when its impulses toward the preservation and welfare of

the species is strong, and those directed to its own good not too strong.

The virtue of a rational being is distinguished from the goodness of

a merely "sensible creature" by the fact that man not only possesses

impulses, but reflects upon them, that he approves or disapproves his own

conduct and that of others, and thus makes his affections the object of a

higher, reflective, judging affection. This faculty of moral distinctions,

the sense for right and wrong, or, which amounts to the same thing, for

beauty and ugliness, is innate; we approve virtue and condemn vice by

nature, not as the result of a compact, and from this natural feeling for

good and evil exercise develops a cultivated moral taste or tact. And when,

further, the reason, by means of this faculty of judgment, gains control

over the passions, man becomes an ethical artist, a moral virtuoso.

Virtue pleases by its own worth and beauty, not because of any external

advantage. We must not corrupt the love of the good for its own sake by

mixing with it the hope of future reward, which at the best is admissible

only as a counter-weight against evil passions. When Shaftesbury speaks of

future bliss, his highest conception of the heavenly life is uninterrupted

friendship, magnanimity, and nobility, as a continual rewarding of virtue by new virtue.

The good is the beautiful, and the beautiful is the harmonious, the

symmetrical; hence the essence of virtue consists in the balance of the

affections and passions. Of the three classes into which Shaftesbury

divides the passions, one, including the "unnatural" or unsocial

affections, as malevolence, envy, and cruelty, which aim neither at the

good of the individual nor that of others, is always and entirely evil.

The two other classes, the social (or "natural") affections and the

"self-affections," may be virtuous or vicious, according to their degree,

\_i. e\_., according to the relation of their strength to

that of the other

affections. In itself a benevolent impulse is never too strong; it

can become so only in comparison with self-love, or in respect to the

constitution of the individual in question, and conversely. Commonly the

social impulses do not attain the normal standard, while the selfish exceed

it; but the opposite case also occurs. Excessive parental tenderness, the

pity which enervates and makes useless for aid, religious zeal for making

converts, passionate partisanship, are examples of too violent social

affections which interfere with the activity of the other inclinations.

Just as erroneous, on the other side, is the neglect of one's own good.

For although the possession of selfish inclinations does not make a

man virtuous, yet the lack of them is a moral defect, since they are

indispensable to the general good. No one can be useful to others who

does not keep himself in a condition for service. The impulse to care for

private welfare is good and necessary in so far as it comports with the

general welfare or contributes to this. The due proportion between the

social passions, which constitute the direct source of good, and those of

self-love, consists in subordinating the latter to the former. The kinship

of this ethics of harmony with the ethical views of antiquity is evident.

It is completed by the eudemonistic conclusion of the system.

As the harmony of impulses constitutes the essence of virtue, so also it is

the way to true happiness. Experience shows that unsocial, unsympathetic,

vicious men are miserable; that love to society is the

richest source

of happiness; that even pity for the suffering of others occasions more

pleasure than pain. Virtue secures us the love and respect of others,

secures us, above all, the approval of our own conscience, and true

happiness consists in satisfaction with ourselves. The search after this

pure, constant, spiritual pleasure in the good, which is never accompanied

by satiety and disgust, should not be called selfseeking; he alone takes

pleasure in the good who is already good himself.

Shaftesbury is not well disposed toward positive Christianity, holding that

it has made virtue mercenary by its promises of heavenly rewards, removed

moral questions entirely out of this world into the world to come, and

taught men most piously to torment one another out of pure supernatural

brotherly love. In opposition to such transcendental positions Shaftesbury,

a priest of the modern view of the world, gives virtue a home on earth,

seeks the hand of Providence in the present world, and teaches men to reach

faith in God by inspiring contemplation of the wellordered universe.

Virtue without piety is possible, indeed, though not complete. But morality

is first and fixed, hence it is the condition and the criterion of genuine

religion. Revelation does not need to fear free rational criticism, for the

Scriptures are accredited by their contents. Besides reason, banter is

with Shaftesbury a second means for distinguishing the genuine from the

spurious: ridicule is the test of truth, and wit and humor the only

cure for enthusiasm. With these he scourges the overpious as religious

parasites, who for safety's sake prefer to believe too much rather than too little.

Before Shaftesbury's theory of the moral sense and the disinterested

affections had gained adherents and developers, the danger, which indeed

had not always been escaped, that man might content himself with the

satisfaction of possessing noble impulses, without taking much care

to realize them in useful actions, called forth by way of reaction, a

paradoxical attempt at an apology for vice. Mandeville, a London physician

of French extraction, and born in Holland, had aroused attention by his

poem, \_The Grumbling Hive; or Knaves Turned Honest\_,
1706, and in response

to vehement attacks upon his work, had added a commentary to the second

edition, \_The Fable of the Bees; or Private Vices Public Benefits\_, 1714.

The moral of the fable is that the welfare of a society depends on the

industry of its members, and this, in turn, on their passions and vices.

Greed, extravagance, envy, ambition, and rivalry are the roots of

the acquisitive impulse, and contribute more to the public good than

benevolence and the control of desire. Virtue is good for the individual,

it is true, since it makes him contented with himself and acceptable to God

and man, but great states require stronger motives to labor and industry

in order to be prosperous. A people among whom frugality, self-denial, and

quietness of spirit were the rule would remain poor and ignorant. Besides

holding that virtue furthers the happiness of society, Shaftesbury makes a

second mistake in assuming that human nature includes

unselfish

inclinations. It is not innate love and goodness that make us social, but

our passions and weaknesses (above all, fear); man is by nature

self-seeking. All actions, including the so-called virtues, spring from

vanity and egoism; thus it has always been, thus it is in every grade of

society. In social life, indeed, we dare not display all these desires

openly, nor satisfy them at will. Shrewd lawgivers have taught men to

conceal their natural passions and to limit them by artificial ones,

persuading them that renunciation is true happiness, on the ground that

through it we attain the supreme good--reputation among, and the esteem of

our fellows. Since then honor and shame have become the strongest motives

and have incited men to that which is called virtue,
\_i.e.\_, to actions

which apparently imply the sacrifice of selfish inclinations for the good

of society, while they are really done out of pride and self-love. By

constantly feigning noble sentiments before others man comes, finally, to

deceive himself, believing himself a being whose happiness consists in the

renunciation of self and all that is earthly, and in the thought of his

moral excellence.--The crass assumptions in Mandeville's reasoning are

evident at a glance. After analyzing virtue into the suppression of desire,

after labeling the impulse after moral approbation vanity, lawful self-love

egoism, and rational acquisitiveness avarice, it was easy for him to prove

that it is vice which makes the individual industrious and the state

prosperous, that virtue is seldom found, and that if it were universal it

would become injurious to society.

With different shading and with less one-sidedness, Bolingbroke (cf.

p. 193) defended the standpoint of naturalism. God has created us for

happiness in common; we are destined to assist one another. Happiness is

attainable in society alone, and society cannot exist without justice and

benevolence. He who exercises virtue, \_i.e.\_, promotes the good of the

species, promotes at the same time his own good. All actions spring from

self-love, which, guided at first by an immediate instinct, and later, by

reason developed through experience, extends itself over ever widening

spheres. We love ourselves in our relatives, in our friends, further still,

in our country, finally, in humanity, so that self-love and social love

coincide, and we are impelled to virtue by the combined motives of interest

and duty. This is an ethic of common sense from the standpoint of the

cultured man of the world--which at the proper time has the right, no

doubt, to gain itself a hearing.

Meanwhile Shaftesbury's ideas had impressed Hutcheson and Butler, according

to the peculiarities of each. Both of these writers deem it necessary to

explain and correct the distinction between the selfish and the benevolent

affections by additions, which were of influence on the ethics of Hume;

both devote their zeal to the new doctrine of feelings of reflection or

moral taste, in which the former gives more prominence to the aesthetic,

merely judging factor, the latter to the active or mandatory one.

Francis Hutcheson[1] (died 1747), professor at Glasgow, in his posthumous
\_System of Moral Philosophy\_, 1755, which had been preceded by an \_Inquiry concerning the Original of our Ideas of Beauty and Virtue\_, 1725, pursues the double aim of showing against Hobbes and Locke the originality and disinterestedness both of benevolence and of moral approval. Virtue is not exercised because it brings advantage to the agent, nor approved on account of advantage to the observer.

[Footnote 1: Cf. Fowler's treatise, cited above--TR.]

(1) The benevolent affections are entirely independent of self-love and regard for the rewards of God and of man, nay, independent even of the lofty satisfaction afforded by self-approbation. This last, indeed, is vouchsafed to us only when we seek the good of others without personal aims: the joy of inward approval is the result of virtue, not the motive to it. If love were in reality a concealed egoism, it would yield to control in cases where it promises advantage, which, as experience shows, is not the fact. Benevolence is entirely natural and as universal in the moral world as gravitation in the corporeal; and like gravitation further in that its intensity increases with propinquity--the nearer the persons, the greater the love. Benevolence is more widespread than malevolence; even the criminal does more innocent and kind acts in his life than criminal ones--the rarity of the latter is the reason why so much is said about

(2) Moral judgment is also entirely uninfluenced by

them.

consideration of the

advantageous or disadvantageous results for the agent or the spectator. The

beauty of a good deed arouses immediate satisfaction. Through the moral

sense we feel pleasure at observing a virtuous action, and aversion when we

perceive an ignoble one, feelings which are independent of all thought of

the rewards and punishments promised by God, as well as of the utility or

harm for ourselves. Hutcheson argues a complete distinction between moral

approval and the perception of the agreeable and the useful, from the facts

that we judge a benevolent action which is forced, or done from motives of

personal advantage, quite differently from one inspired by love; that we

pay esteem to high-minded characters whether their fortunes be good or

ill; and that we are moved with equal force by fictitious actions, as, for

instance, on the stage, and by those which really take place.

(3) A few further particulars may be emphasized from the comprehensive

systematization which Hutcheson industriously and thoughtfully gave to

Shaftesbury's ideas. Two points reveal the forerunner of Hume. First, the

rôle assigned to the reason in moral affairs is merely subsidiary. Our

motive to action is never the knowledge of a true proposition, but always

simply a wish, affection, or impulse. Ultimate ends are given by the

feelings alone; the reason can only discover the means thereto. Secondly,

the turbulent, blind, rapidly passing passions are distinguished from the

calm, permanent affections, which are mediated by cognition. The latter are

the nobler; among them, in turn, the highest place is

occupied by those

conducive to the general good, whose worth is still further determined

by the extent of their objects. From this is derived the law that a kind

affection receives the more lively approval, the more calm and deliberate

it is, the higher the degree of happiness experienced by the object of the

action, and the greater the number of persons affected by it. Patriotism

and love of mankind in general are higher virtues than affection for

friends and children. As the goal of the self-regarding affections,

perfection makes its appearance--for the first time in English ethics--by

the side of happiness.

Joseph Butler[1] (1692-1752; \_Sermons on Human Nature\_, 1726; cf. p. 194)

maintains still more strictly than Hutcheson the immediateness both of the

affections and the moral estimation of them. He declares that even the

self-regarding impulses as such are un-egoistic, and makes moral judgment

leave out of view all consequences, either foreseen or present, whereas his

predecessor had resolved the goodness of the action into its advantageous

effects (not for the agent and the spectator, but for its object and) for

society. The conscience--so Butler terms the moral sense--directly approves

or disapproves characters and actions in themselves, no matter what good or

ill they occasion in the world. We judge a mode of action good, not because

it is useful to society, but because it corresponds to the demands of the

conscience. This must be unconditionally obeyed, whatever be the issue. We

must not act contrary to truth and justice, even if it should seem to bring

about more happiness than misery. -- Butler, too, furnishes material for the ethics of Hume, by his revival of the separation, previously defended by the Stoics, of desire and passion from self-love or interest. Self-love desires a thing because it expects pleasure from it, but the natural impulses impel us toward their objects immediately, i. e ., without a representation of the pleasure to be gained; and repetition is necessary before the artificial motive of egoistic pleasureseeking can be added to the natural motive of inborn desire. Self-love always presupposes original, immediate affections. [Footnote 1: Cf. Collins's Butler, Blackwood's Philosophical Classics. 1881.--TR.] The English moral science of the century is brought to a conclusion by Adam Smith[1] (1723-90), the celebrated founder of political economy.[2] Smith not only takes into consideration -- like his greater friend, Hume--all the problems proposed by his predecessors, but, further (in his Theory of Moral Sentiments , 1759, published while he was professor at Glasgow), combines the various attempts at their solution, not by eclectic co-ordination but by working them over for himself, and arranges them on a uniform principle, thus accomplishing a work which has not yet received due recognition beyond the limits of his native land. He reached this comprehensive moral principle by recognizing the full bearing of a thought which Hume had incidentally expressed, that moral judgment depends on participation in the feelings of the agent, and by

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following out with fine
psychological observation this sympathy of men into its
first and last
manifestations. In this way a twofold kind of morality
was revealed to him:
mere propriety of behavior and real merit in action. On
the one hand, that
is, the sympathy of the spectator -- as Hume has one-
sidedly emphasized--is
directed to the utility of the consequences (or to the
"merit") of the
action, and, on the other, to the fitness of the motives
(or their
"propriety"). An action is proper when the impartial
spectator is able to
sympathize with its motive, and meritorious if he can
sympathize also with
its end or effect; i.e., if, in the first case, the
feelings are suitable
to their objects (neither too strong nor too weak), and,
in the second
case, the consequences of the act are advantageous to
others. Merit =
propriety + utility. The main conclusion is this:
Sympathy is that by
means of which virtue is recognized and approved, as
well as that which is
approved as virtue; it is ratio cognoscendi as well as
ratio essendi ,
the criterion as well as the source of morality. Thus
Smith endeavors to
solve the two principal problems of English ethics -- the
criterion and the
origin of virtue--with a common answer.
[Footnote 1: Cf. Farrer's Adam Smith , English
Philosophers Series,
1880.--TR.]
[Footnote 2: The epoch-making work, with which he called
economic science
into existence, The Wealth of Nations \ appeared in
1776. Cf. Wilhelm
Hassbach, Untersuchungen über Adam Smith , Leipsic,
1891.
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"Sympathy" denotes primarily nothing more than the innate and purely formal

power of imitating to a certain degree the feelings of others. From this

modest germ is developed by a progressive growth the wide-spreading tree of

morality: moral judgment, the moral imperative with its religious sanction,

and ethical character. Accordingly we may distinguish different stages

in the development of sympathy--the psychological stage of mere

fellow-feeling, the aesthetic stage of moral appreciation, the imperative

stage of moral precepts, which further on are construed as commands of

God (the famous Kantian definition of religion was announced in Glasgow

a generation earlier than in Königsberg), finally, the concluding stage

wherein these laws of duty are taken up into the disposition. Besides

these, there results from the mechanism of the sympathetic feelings a

series of phenomena, which, although they do not entirely conform to the

ethical standard, yet exercise a salutary effect on the permanence of

society; \_e.g.\_, our exceptional judgment of the deeds of the great, the

rich, and the fortunate, as also the higher worth ascribed to good (and,

conversely, the greater guilt to bad) intentions when successfully carried

out into action, in comparison with those which fall short of their result.

The first, the purely psychological stage, includes three cases. The

spectator sympathizes (1) with the feelings of the agent; (2) with the

gratitude or anger of the person affected by the action; (3) the person

observed sympathizes in return with the imitative and

judging feelings of the spectator.

The fundamental laws of sympathy are as follows: We are roused to imitate

the feeling of another by the perception either of its signs (its natural

consequences or its natural expression in visible and audible motions), or

of its causes (the circumstances and experiences which occasion it), the

latter exercising a more potent influence than the former. The wooden leg

of the beggar is more effective in exciting our pity than his anxious air;

the sight of dental instruments is more eloquent than the plaints of

the sufferer from toothache. In order to be able to imitate vividly the

feelings of a person, we must know the causes of them. -- The feeling of

the spectator is, on the average, less intense than that of the person

observed, so long as the latter does not control and repress his emotions

in view of the calmness of the former. The difference of intensity between

the original and the sympathetic feelings differs widely with the various

classes of emotions. It is difficult to take part in feelings which arise

from bodily conditions, but easy to share those in the production of which

the imagination is concerned--hence easier to share in hope and fear than

in pleasure and pain. -- We sympathize more readily with feelings which are

agreeable to the observer, the observed, and other participants than with

such as are not so; more willingly, therefore, with cheerfulness, love,

benevolence than with grief, hatred, malevolence. This is not only true of

temporary affections, but especially of those general dispositions which

depend on a more or less happy situation in life; we sympathize more

vividly with the fortunes of the rich and noble, because we consider them

happier than the poor and lowly. Wealth and high rank are objects of

general desire chiefly because their possessor enjoys the advantage of

knowing that whatever gives him joy or sorrow always arouses similar

feelings in countless other men. The root of all ambition is the wish to

rule over the hearts of our fellows by compelling them to make our feelings

their own; the central nerve of all happiness consists in seeing our own

sensations shared by those about us and reflected back, as it were, from

manifold mirrors. Small annoyances often have a diverting effect on the

spectator; great success easily excites his envy; great sorrows and minor

joys, on the contrary, are always sure of our sympathy. Hence the morose

man, to whom everything is an occasion of ill-humor, is nowhere welcome,

and the man of cheerful disposition, who rejoices in each little event and

whose good spirits are contagious, everywhere.

Not less admirable than the fine gift of observation which guides Smith in

his discovery of the primary manifestations and the laws of sympathy is the

skill with which he deduces moral phenomena, from the simplest to the

most complex--moral judgment, the moral law, its application to one's own

conduct, the conscience--from the interchange of sympathetic feelings. From

involuntary comparison of the representative feeling of the spectator with

its original in the person observed arises an agreeable or disagreeable

feeling of judgment, a judgment of value, approbating or

rejecting the

latter. This is approving when the intensity of the original harmonizes

with that of the copy, disapproving when the former exceeds or fails to

attain the latter. In the one case the emotion is judged suitable to the

object which causes it; in the other, too violent or too weak. It is always

a certain mean of passion which, as "proper," receives approval (esteem,

love, or admiration). In the case of the social passions excess is more

readily condoned, in the case of the unsocial and selfish ones, defect;

hence we judge the over-sensitive more leniently than the over-vengeful.

Anger must be well-grounded and must express itself with great moderation

to arouse in the spectator a like degree of sympathetic resentment. For

here the sympathy of the spectator is divided between two parties, and

fellow-feeling with the angry one is weakened by fear for the person

menaced by him, whereas, in the case of kind affections, sympathy is

increased by doubling. While our judgment of propriety or decorum rests on

simple participation in the sentiments of the agent, our judgment of

merit and demerit is based, in addition, on sympathy with the feelings

of gratitude or resentment experienced by the person on whom the action

terminates. An act is meritorious if it appears to us to deserve thanks

and reward, ill-deserving if it seems to merit resentment and punishment.

Nature has inscribed on the heart, apart from all reflection on the utility

of punishment, an independent, immediate, and instinctive approbation of

the sacred law of retribution. This is the point at which a hitherto purely

contemplative sympathy passes over into an active impulse, which prepares

us to support the victim of attack and insult in his defense and revenge.

This participation in the circumstances and feelings of others is a

reciprocal phenomenon. The spectator takes pains to share the sentiments of

the person observed; and the latter, on his part, endeavors to reduce the

emotions which move him to a degree which will render participation in them

possible for the former. In these reciprocal efforts we have the beginnings

of the two classes of virtues--the gentle, amiable virtues of sympathy

and sensibility, and the exalted, estimable virtues of self-denial and

self-command. Both of these conditions of mind, however, are considered

virtues only when they are manifested in unusual intensity: humanity is

a remarkably delicate fellow-feeling, greatness of soul a rare degree of

self-command. (The consideration for those about one which is ethically

demanded is given, moreover, to a certain extent involuntarily. The man

in trouble and the merry man alike restrain themselves in the company of

persons who are indifferent, or in an opposite mood, while they give rein

to their emotions when with those similarly affected. Joy is enhanced by

sympathy, and grief mitigated.) Thus the perfection of human nature and the

divinely willed harmony among the feelings of men are dependent on every

man feeling little for himself and much for others; on his holding his

selfish inclinations in check and giving free course to his benevolent

ones. This is the injunction of Christianity as well as of nature. And

as, on the one hand, the content of the moral law is thus deduced from

sympathy, so, on the other, this yields the formal criterion of good:

Look upon thy sentiments and actions in the light in which the impartial

spectator would see them. Conscience is the spectator taken up into our own

breast. It remains to consider the origin of this third, imperative stage.

From daily experience of the fact that we judge the conduct of others, and

they ours, and from the wish to gain their approval, arises the habit of

subjecting our own actions to criticism. We learn to look at ourselves

through the eyes of others, we assign the spectator and judge a place in

our own heart, we make his calm objective judgment our own, and hear the

man within calling to us: Thou art responsible for thy acts and intentions.

In this way we are placed in a position to overcome two great delusions,

one of passion, which overestimates the present at the expense of the

future, and one of self-love, which overestimates the individual at the

expense of other men; delusions from which the impartial spectator is free,

for the pleasure of the moment seems to him no more desirable than pleasure

to come, and one person is just the same to him as another. Through

comparison of like cases in the exercise of self-examination certain rules

or principles are formed concerning what is right and good. Reverence for

these general rules of living is called the sense of duty. The last step in

the process consists in our enhancement of the binding authority of moral

rules by looking on them as commands of God. Here Smith adds subtle

discussions of the question, in what cases actions ought to be done simply

out of regard for these abstract maxims, and in what others we welcome the

co-operation of a natural impulse or passion. We ought to be angry and to

punish with reluctance, merely because reason enjoins it, but, on the other

hand, we should be benevolent and grateful from affection; she is not a

model wife who performs her duties merely from a sense of duty, and not

from inclination also. Further, in all cases where the rules cannot be

formulated with perfect exactness and definiteness (as they can in the case

of justice), and are not absolutely valid without exception, reverence for

them must be assisted by a natural taste for modifying and supplementing

the general maxims to suit particular instances.

In this sketch of the course of Smith's moral philosophy much that is fine

and much that is of importance has of necessity been passed over--his

excellent analysis of the relations of benevolence and justice, and

numerous descriptions of traits of character,  $_{-}$ e.  $g_{-}$ ., his ingenious

parallel between pride and vanity. We may briefly mention, in conclusion,

his observations on the irregularities of moral judgment. Prosperity and

success exert an influence on this, which, though hurtful to its purity,

must, on the whole, be considered advantageous to mankind. Our lenience

toward the defects of princes, the great, and the rich, and our over-praise

for their excellent qualities are, from the moral standpoint, an injustice,

but one which has this advantage, that it encourages ambition and industry,

and maintains social distinctions intact, which without

loyalty and respect

toward superiors would be broken down. For most men the road to fortune

coincides with the path to virtue. Again, it is a beneficent provision of

nature that we put a higher estimate on a successfully executed act of

benevolence, and reward it more, than a kind intention which fails of

execution; that we judge and punish the purposed crime which is not carried

out more leniently than the one which is completed; that we even ascribe

a certain degree of accountability to an unintentional act of good or

evil--although in these cases the moralist is compelled to see an ethically

unjustifiable corruption of the judgment by external success or failure

beyond the control of the agent. The first of these irregularities does

not allow the man of good intentions to content himself with noble desires

merely, but spurs him on to greater endeavors to carry them out--man

is created for action; the second protects us from the inquisitorial

questioning of motives, for it is easy for the most innocent to fall under

grave suspicion. To this inconsistency of feeling we owe the necessary

legal principle that deeds only, not intentions, are punishable. God

has reserved for himself judgment concerning dispositions. The third

irregularity, that he who inflicts unintentional injury is not guilty, even

in his own eyes, but yet seems bound to make atonement and reparation,

is useful in so far as it warns everyone to be prudent, while the

corresponding illusion, in virtue of which we are grateful to an

involuntary benefactor -- for instance, the bearer of good tidings -- and

reward him, is at least not harmful, for any reason appears sufficient for the bestowal of kind intentions and actions.

It is impossible to explain in brief the relation of Smith's ethical

theory to his political economy. His merit in the former consists in his

comprehensive and characteristic combination of the results reached by his

predecessors, and in his preparation for Kantian views, so far as this

was possible from the empirical standpoint of the English. His impartial

spectator was the forerunner of the categorical imperative.

English ethics after Smith may, almost without exception, be termed

eclecticism. This is true of Ferguson \_(Institutes of Moral Philosophy\_,

1769); of Paley (1785); of the Scottish School (Dugald Stewart, 1793).

Bentham's utilitarianism was the first to bring in a new phase.

## %4. Theory of Knowledge.%

(a) %Berkeley%.--George Berkeley, a native of Ireland, Bishop of Cloyne

(1685-1753; \_An Essay toward a New Theory of Vision\_, 1709; A Treatise

concerning the Principles of Human Knowledge\_, 1710; \_Three Dialogues

between Hylas and Philonous\_, 1713; \_Alciphron, or the Minute Philosopher\_,

1732, against the freethinkers; \_Works\_, 1784. Fraser's edition of the

Collected Works appeared in 1871, in four volumes),[1] is related to Locke

as Spinoza to Descartes. He notices blemishes and contradictions allowed by

his predecessor to remain, and, recognizing that the difficulty is not to

be remedied by minor corrections and artificial hypotheses, goes back to

the fundamental principles, takes these more earnestly than their author,

and, by carrying them out more strictly, arrives at a new view of the

world. The points in Locke's doctrines which invited a further advance were

the following: Locke proclaims that our knowledge extends no further

than our ideas, and that truth consists in the agreement of ideas among

themselves, not in the agreement of ideas with things. But this principle

had scarcely been announced before it was violated. In spite of his

limitation of knowledge to ideas, Locke maintains that we know (if not the

inner constitution, yet) the qualities and powers of things without us, and

have a "sensitive" certainty of their existence. Against this, it is to be

said that there are no primary qualities, that is, qualities which exist

without as well as within us. Extension, motion, solidity, which are cited

as such, are just as purely subjective states in us as color, heat, and

sweetness. Impenetrability is nothing more than the feeling of resistance,

an idea, therefore, which self-evidently can be nowhere else than in the

mind experiencing it. Extension, size, distance, and motion are not even

sensations (we see colors only, not quantitative determinations), but

relations which we in thinking add to the sensequalities (secondary

qualities), and which we are not able to represent apart from them; their

relativity alone would forbid us to consider them objective. And material

substances, the "support" of qualities invented by the philosophers, are

not only unknown, but entirely non-existent. Abstract

matter is a phrase

without meaning, and individual things are collections of ideas in us,

nothing more. If we take away all sense-qualities from a thing, absolutely

nothing remains. Our ideas are not merely the only; objects of knowledge,

but also the only existing things--\_nothing exists except minds and

their ideas\_. Spirits alone are active beings, they only are indivisible

substances, and have real existence, while the being of bodies (as

dependent, inert, variable beings, which are in a constant process of

becoming) consists alone in their appearance to spirits and their being

perceived by them. Incogitative, hence passive, beings are neither

substances, nor capable of producing ideas in us. Those ideas which we do

not ourselves produce are the effects of a spirit which is mightier than

we. With this a second inconsistency was removed which had been overlooked

by Locke, who had ascribed active power to spirits alone and denied it to

matter, but at the same time had made the former affected by the latter. If

external sense is to mean the capacity for having ideas occasioned by the

action of external material things, then there is no external sense. A

third point wherein Locke had not gone far enough for his successor,

concerned the favorite English doctrine of nominalism. Locke, with his

predecessors, had maintained that all reality is individual, and that

universals exist only in the abstracting understanding. From this point

Berkeley advances a step further, the last, indeed, which was possible in

this direction, by bringing into question the possibility even of abstract

ideas. As all beings are particular things, so all ideas are particular ideas.

[Footnote 1: Cf. also Fraser's \_Berkeley\_ (Blackwood's Philosophical

Classics) 1881; Eraser's \_Selections from Berkeley\_, 4th ed., 1891; and

Krauth's edition of the \_Principles\_, 1874, with notes from several

sources, especially those translated from Ueberweg.-- TR.]

Berkeley looks on the refutation of these two fundamental mistakes--the

assumption of general ideas in the mind, and the belief in the existence

of a material world outside it--as his life work, holding them the chief

sources of atheism, doubt, and philosophical discord. The first of these

errors arises from the use of language. Because we employ words which

denote more than one object, we have believed ourselves warranted in

concluding that we have ideas which correspond to the extension of the

words in question, and which contain only those characteristics which are

uniformly found in all objects so named. This, however, is not the case.[1]

We speak of many things which we cannot represent: names do not always

stand for ideas. The definition of the word triangle as a three-sided

figure bounded by straight lines, makes demands upon us which our faculties

of imagination are never fully able to meet; for the triangle that we

represent to ourselves is always either right-angled or oblique-angled, and

not--as we must demand from the abstract conception of the figure--both and

neither at once. The name "man" includes men and women, children and the

aged, but we are never able to represent a man except as an individual of a

definite age and sex. Nevertheless we are in a position to make a safe

use of these non-presentative but useful abbreviations, and by means of a

particular idea to develop truths of wider application. This takes place

when, in the demonstration, those qualities are not considered which

distinguish the idea from others with a like name. In this case the

given idea stands for all others which are known by the same name; the

representative idea is not universal, but serves as such. Thus when I have

demonstrated the proposition, the sum of all the angles of a triangle is

equal to two right angles, for a given triangle, I do not need to prove

it for every triangle thereafter. For not only the color and size of the

triangle are indifferent, but its other peculiarities as well; the question

whether it is right-angled or obtuse-angled, whether it has equal

sides, whether it has equal or unequal angles, is not mentioned in the

demonstration, and has no influence upon it. \_Abstracta\_ exist only in this

sense. In considering the individual Paul I can attend exclusively to those

characteristics which he has in common with all men or with all living

beings, but it is impossible for me to represent this complex of common

qualities apart from his individual peculiarities. Selfobservation shows

that we have no general concepts; reason, that we can have none, for the

combination of opposite elements in one idea would be a contradiction in

terms. Motion in general, neither swift nor slow, extension in general,

at once great and small, abstract matter without

sensuous

determinations -- these can neither exist nor be perceived.

[Footnote 1: Against the Berkeleyan denial of abstract notions the popular

philosopher, Joh. Jak. Engel, directed an essay, \_Ueber die Realität

allgemeiner Begriffe\_ (Engel's  $\_$ Schriften $\_$ , vol. x.), to which attention

has been called by O. Liebmann, \_Analysis tier Wirklichkeit\_, 2d ed., p. 473.1

The "materialistic" hypothesis--so Berkeley terms the assumption that a

material world exists apart from perceiving mind, and independently of

being perceived--is, first, unnecessary, for the facts which it is to

explain can be explained as well, or even better, without it; and, second,

false, since it is a contradiction to suppose that an object can exist

unperceived, and that a sensation or idea is the copy of anything itself

not a sensation or idea. Ideas are the only objects of the understanding.

Sensible qualities (white, sweet) are subjective states of the soul; sense

objects (sugar), sensation-complexes. If sensations need a substantial

support, this is the soul which perceives them, not an external thing which

can neither perceive nor be perceived. Single ideas, and those combined

into objects, can exist nowhere else than in the mind; the being of sense

objects consists in their being perceived (\_esse est percipi\_). I see light

and feel heat, and combine these sensations of sight and touch into the

substance fire, because I know from experience that they constantly

accompany and suggest each other.[1] The assumption of

an "object" apart

from the idea is as useless as its existence would be. Why should God

create a world of real things without the mind, when these can neither

enter into the mind, nor (because unperceived) be copied by its ideas, nor

(because they themselves lack perception and power) produce ideas in it?

Ideas signify nothing but themselves, \_i. e\_., affections of the subject.

[Footnote 1: The fire that I see is not the cause of the pain which I

experience in approaching it, but the visual image of the flame is only a

sign which warns me not to go too near. If I look through a microscope

I see a different object from the one perceived with the naked eye. Two

persons never see the same object, they merely have like sensations.]

The further question arises, What is the origin of ideas? Men have been led

into this erroneous belief in the reality of the material world by the

fact that certain ideas are not subject to our will, while others are.

Sensations are distinguished from the ideas of imagination, which we can

excite and alter at pleasure, by their greater strength, liveliness, and

distinctness, by their steadiness, regular order, and coherence, and by

the fact that they arise without our aid and whether we will or no. Unless

these ideas are self-originated they must have an external cause. This,

however, can be nothing else than a willing, thinking Being; for without

will it could not be active and act upon me, and without ideas of its own

it could not communicate ideas to me. Because of the manifoldness and

regularity of our sensations the Being which produces them must, further,

possess infinite power and intelligence. The ideas of imagination are

produced by ourselves, real perceptions are produced by God. The connected

whole of divinely produced ideas we call nature, and the constant

regularity in their succession, the laws of nature. The invariableness of

the divine working and the purposive harmony of creation reveal the wisdom

and goodness of the Almighty more clearly than "astonishing and exceptional

events." When we hear a man speak we reason from this activity to his

existence. How much less are we entitled to doubt the existence of God, who

speaks to us in the thousandfold works of nature.

The natural or created ideas which God impresses on us are copies of

the eternal ideas which he himself perceives, not, indeed, by passive

sensation, but through his creative reason. Accordingly when it was

maintained that things do not exist independently of perception, the

reference was not to the individual spirit, but to all spirits. When I

turn my eyes away from an object it continues to exist, indeed, after

my perception has ended--in the minds of other men and in that of the

Omnipresent One. The pantheistic conclusion of these principles, in the

sense of Geulincx and Malebranche,[1] which one expects, was really

suggested by Berkeley. Everything exists only in virtue of its

participation in the one, permanent, all-comprehensive spirit; individual

spirits are of the same nature with the universal reason, only they are

less perfect, limited, and not pure activity, while God

is passionless

intelligence. But if, in the last analysis, God is the cause of all, this

does not hold of the free actions of men, least of all of wicked ones. The

freedom of the will must not be rejected because of the contradictions

which its acceptance involves; motion, also, and mathematical infinity

imply incomprehensible elements. In the philosophy of nature Berkeley

prefers the teleological to the mechanical view, since the latter is able

to discover the laws of phenomena only, but not their efficient and

final causes. Sense and experience acquaint us merely with the course

of phenomenal effects; the reason, which opens up to us the realm of

causation, of the spiritual, is the only sure guide to science and truth.

The understanding does not feel, the senses do not know. We have no

(sensuous) idea of other spirits, but only a notion of them; instead of

themselves we perceive their activities merely, from which we argue

to souls like ourselves, while we know our own mind by immediate

self-consciousness.[2]

[Footnote 1: The example of Arthur Collier shows that the same results

which Berkeley reaches empirically can be obtained from the standpoint of

rationalism. Following Malebranche, and developing further the idealistic

tendencies of the latter, Collier had, independently of Berkeley, conceived

the doctrine of the "non-existence or impossibility of an external world ";

but had not worked it out in his \_Clavis Universalis\_, 1713, until after

the appearance of Berkeley's chief work, and not without consideration of

this. The general point of view and the arguments are the same: Existence

is equivalent to being perceived by God; the creation of a real world of

matter apart from the ideal world in  $\operatorname{\mathsf{God}}$  and from sensuous perceptions in

us would have been a superfluous device, etc.]

[Footnote 2: It should be remembered, however, that this immediate

knowledge of ourselves is also "not after the manner of an idea or

sensation." Our knowledge of spirits is always mediated by "notions" not by

"ideas" in the strict sense, that is, not by "images." Cf. Principles\_,

\$\\$ 27, 135 \_seq\_., especially in the second edition.-TR.]

In contrast to the fearlessness with which Berkeley propounds his

spiritualism, his anxious endeavors to take away the appearance of paradox

from his immaterialistic doctrine, and to show its complete agreement with

common sense, excite surprise. Even the common man, he argues, desires

nothing more than that his perceptions be real; the distinction between

idea and object is an invention of philosophers. Here Berkeley cannot be

acquitted of a certain sophistical play upon the term "idea," which, in

fact, is ambiguous. He understands by it \_that which\_
the soul perceives

(its immediate, inner object), but the popular mind,
\_that through which\_

the soul perceives an object. The reality of an idea in us is different

from the idea of a real thing, or from the reality of that which is

perceived without us by means of the idea, and it is just this last meaning

which common sense affirms and Berkeley denies. In any

case it was a work

of great merit to have transferred the existence of objects beyond our

ideas, of things-in-themselves, out of the region of the self-evident into

the region of the problematical. We never get beyond the circle of our

ideas, and if we posit a thing-in-itself as the ground and object of the

idea, this also is simply a thought, an idea. For us there is no being

except that of the perceiver and the perceived. Later we shall meet two

other forms of idealism, in Leibnitz and Fichte. Both of these agree with

Berkeley that spiritual beings alone are active, and active beings alone

real, and that the being of the inactive consists in their being perceived.

But while in Berkeley the objective ideas are impressed upon finite spirits

by the Infinite Spirit from without and singly, with Leibnitz they appear

as a fullness of germs, which God implanted together in the monads at the

beginning, and which the individual develops into consciousness, and with

Fichte they become the unconscious productions of the Absolute Ego acting

in the individual egos. For the two former as many worlds exist as there

are individual spirits, their harmony being guaranteed, in the one case, by

the consistency of God's working, and, in the other, by his foresight. For

Fichte, on the other hand, there is but one world, for the absolute is not

outside the individual spirits, but the uniformly working force within them.

(b) Hume.--David Hume was born in Edinburgh in 1711, and died in the same

city, 1776. His position as librarian, which he held in the place of

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his birth, 1752-57, gave the opportunity for his
History of England (
1754-62). His chief work, the Treatise on Human
Nature , which, however,
found few readers, was composed during his first
residence in France in
1734-37. Later he worked over the first book of this
work into his
Enquiry concerning Human Understanding (1748); the
second book into A
Dissertation on the Passions; and the third into An
Enquiry concerning
the Principles of Morals . These, and others of his
essays, found so much
favor that, during his second sojourn in France, as
secretary to Lord
Hertford, in 1763-66, he was already honored as a
philosopher of world-wide
renown. Then, after serving for some time as Under-
Secretary of State, he
retired to private life at home (1769).
The three books of the Treatise on Human Nature , which
appeared in
1739-40, are entitled Of the Understanding, Of the
Passions, Of Morals .
Of the five volumes of the Essays, the first contains
the Essays Moral,
Political, and Literary , 1741-42; the second, the
Enquiry concerning
Human Understanding , 1748; the third, the Enquiry
concerning the
Principles of Morals , 1751; the fourth, the Political
Discourses , 1752;
the fifth, 1757, the Four Dissertations , including
that On the Passions
and the Natural History of Religion . After Hume's
death appeared the
_Autobiography_, 1777; the _Dialogues concerning Natural
Religion , 1779;
and the two small essays on Suicide and the
 Immortality of the Soul ,
1783.[1] The Philosophical Works were published in
1827, and frequently
afterward.[2]
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[Footnote 1: Or 1777, cf. Green and Grose's edition,
vol. iii. p. 67
seq .--Tr.]
[Footnote 2: Among the works on Hume we may mention
Jodl's prize treatise,
1872, and Huxley's Hume (English Men of Letters),
1879. [The reader may
be referred also to Knight's _Hume (Blackwood's
Philosophical Classics),
1886; to T.H. Green's "Introductions" in Green and
Grose's edition of the
collected works in four volumes, 1874 (new ed. 1889-90),
which is now
standard; and to Selby-Bigge's reprint of the original
edition of the
Treatise , I vol., 1888, with a valuable Analytical
Index.]]
Hume's object, like that of Berkeley, is the improvement
of Locke's
doctrine of knowledge. In several respects he does not
go so far as
Berkeley, in others very much farther. In agreement with
Berkeley's
ultra-nominalism, which combats even the possibility of
abstract ideas, he
yet does not follow him to the extent of denying
external reality. On the
other hand, he carries out more consistently Berkeley's
hint that immediate
sensation includes less than is ascribed to it (e.g.,
that by vision
we perceive colors only, and not distance, etc.), as
well as his
principle--destructive to the certainty of our knowledge
of nature--that
there is no causality among phenomena; and brings the
question of substance
to, the negative conclusion, that there is no need
whatever for a support
for groups of qualities, and, therefore, that
substantiality is to be
denied to immaterial as well as to material beings. The
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points in Locke's

philosophy which seemed to Hume to need completion were different from

those at which Berkeley had struck in. The antithesis of rational and

empirical knowledge is more sharply conceived; the combination of ideas is

not left to the choice of the understanding but placed under the dominion

of psychological laws; and to the distinction between outer and inner

experience (to the former of which priority is conceded, on the ground that

we must have had an external sensation before we can, through reflection,

be conscious of it as an internal phenomenon), there is added a second, as

important as the other and crossing it, between impressions and ideas, of

which the former are likewise made prior to the latter.

Everyone will acknowledge the considerable difference between a sensation

actually present (of heat, for instance) and the mere idea of one

previously experienced, or shortly to come. This consists in the greater

force, liveliness, and vividness of the former. Although these two classes

of states (the idea of a landscape described by a poet and the perception

of a real one, anger and the thought of anger) are only quantitatively

distinct, they are scarcely ever in danger of being confused--the most

lively idea is always less so than the weakest perception. The actual,

outer or inner, sensations may be termed impressions; the weaker images of

memory or imagination, which they leave behind them, ideas. Since nothing

can gain entrance to the soul except through the two portals of outer and

inner experience, there is no idea which has not arisen from an impression

or several such; every idea is the image and copy of an impression. But

as the understanding and imagination variously combine, separate, and

transpose the elements furnished by the senses and lingering in memory, the

possibility of error arises. A hidden, and, therefore more dangerous source

of error consists in the reference of an idea to a different impression

than the one of which it is the copy. The concepts substance and causality

are examples of such false reference.

The combination of ideas takes place without freedom, in a purely

mechanical, way according to fixed rules, which in the last analysis

reduce to three fundamental laws of association: Ideas are associated

(1) according to their resemblance and contrast; (2) according to their

contiguity in space and time; (3) according to their causal connection.

Mathematics is based on the operation of the first of these laws, on

the immediate or mediate knowledge of the resemblance, contrariety, and

quantitative relations of ideas; the descriptive and experimental part of

the sciences of nature and of man on the second; religion, metaphysics, and

that part of physical and moral science which goes beyond mere observation

on the third. The theory of knowledge has to determine the boundaries of

human understanding and the degree of credibility to which these sciences are entitled.

The objects of human thought and inquiry are either relations of ideas or

matters of fact. To the former class belong the objects of mathematics, the  $\,$ 

truths of which, since they are analytic (i.e.,

merely explicate in the

predicate the characteristics already contained in the subject, and add

nothing new to this), and since they concern possible relations only,

not reality, possess intuitive or demonstrative certainty. It is only

propositions concerning quantity and number that are discoverable a

priori\_ by the mere operation of thought, without
dependence on real

existence, and that can be proved from the impossibility of their

opposites -- mathematics is the only demonstrative science.

We reach certainty in matters of fact by direct perception, or by

inferences from other facts, when they transcend the testimony of our  $\ensuremath{\mathsf{T}}$ 

senses and memory. These arguments from experience are of an entirely

different sort from the rational demonstrations of mathematics; as the

contrary of a fact is always thinkable (the proposition that the sun will

not rise to-morrow implies no logical contradiction), they yield, strictly

speaking, probability only, no matter how strong our conviction of their

accuracy may be. Nevertheless it is advisable to separate this species of

inferences from experience--whose certainty is not doubted except by the

philosophers--from uncertain probabilities, as a class intermediate between

the latter and demonstrative truth (demonstrations-proofs-probabilities).

All reasonings concerning matters of fact are based on the relation of

cause and effect. Whence, then, do we obtain the knowledge of cause and

effect? Not by \_a priori\_ thought. Pure reason is able only to analyze

concepts into their elements, not to connect new

predicates with them. All

its judgments are analytic, while synthetic judgments rest on experience.

Judgments concerning causation belong in this latter class, for effects are

entirely distinct from causes; the effect is not contained in the cause,

nor the latter in the former. In the case of a phenomenon previously

unknown we cannot tell from what causes it has proceeded, nor what

its effect will be. We argue that fire will warm us, and bread afford

nourishment, because we have often perceived these causal pairs closely

connected in space and time. But even experience does not vouchsafe all

that we desire. It shows nothing more than the coexistence and succession

of phenomena and events; while the judgment itself, \_e. g\_., that the

motion of one body stands in causal connection with that of another,

asserts more than mere contiguity in space and time, it affirms not merely

that the one precedes the other, but that it produces it--not merely that

the second follows the first, but that it results from it. The bond which

connects the two events, the force that puts forth the second from the

first, the necessary connection between the two is not perceived, but added

to perception by thought, construed into it.[1] What, then, is the occasion

and what the warrant for transforming perceived succession in time into

causal succession, for substituting \_must\_ for \_is\_, for interpreting the

observed connection of fact into a necessary connection which always eludes observation?

[Footnote 1: The weakness of the concept of cause had been recognized

before Hume by the skeptic, J. Glanvil (1636-80). Causality itself cannot be perceived; we infer it from the constant succession of two phenomena, without being able to show warrant for the transformation of \_thereafter\_ into \_thereby\_.]

We do not causally connect every chance pair of successive events, but

those only which have been repeatedly observed together. The wonder is,

then, that through oft-repeated observation of certain objects we come to

believe that we know something about the behavior of other like objects,

and the further behavior of these same ones. From the fact that I have seen

a given apple fall ten times to the ground, I infer that all the apples in

the world do the same when loosened, instead of flying upward, which, in

itself, is quite as thinkable; I infer further that this has always

been the case, and will continue to be so to all eternity. Where is the

intermediate link between the proposition, "I have found that such an

object has always been attended with such an effect," and this other, "I

foresee that other objects which are, in appearance, similar, will be

attended with similar effects"? This postulate, that the future will be

like the past, and that like causes will have like effects, rests on a

purely psychological basis. In virtue of the laws of association the sight

of an object or event vividly recalls the image of a second, often observed

in connection with the former, and leads us involuntarily to expect its

appearance anew. The idea of causal connection is based on feeling (the

feeling of inner determination to pass from one idea to

a second), not upon

insight; it is a product of the imagination, not of the understanding. From

the habitual perception of two events in connection (sunshine and heat)

arises the mental determination to think of the second when we perceive the

first, and, anticipating the senses, to count on its appearance. It is now

possible to state of what impression the idea of the causal nexus is the

copy: the impression on which it is based is the habitual transition from

the idea of a thing to its customary attendant. Hence the idea of causality

has a purely subjective significance, not the objective one which we

ascribe to it. It is impossible to determine whether there is a real

necessity of becoming corresponding to the felt necessity of thought.

In life we never doubt the fact, but for science our conviction of the

uniformity of nature remains a merely probable (though a very highly

probable) conviction. Complete certainty is vouchsafed only by rational

demonstration and immediate experience. The necessary bond which we

postulate between cause and effect can neither be demonstrated nor felt.

If all experiential reasonings depend on the idea of causality, and this

has no other support than subjective mental habit, it follows that all

knowledge of nature which goes beyond mere observed fact is not knowledge

(neither demonstrative knowledge nor knowledge of fact), but belief.[1] The

probability of our belief in the regularity of natural phenomena increases,

indeed, with every new verification of the assumptions based thereon; but,

as has been shown, it never rises to absolute certainty.

Nevertheless

inferences from experience are trustworthy and entirely sufficient for

practical life, and the aim of the above skeptical deliverances was not

to shake belief--only a fool or a lunatic can doubt in earnest the

immutability of nature--but only to make it clear that it is mere belief,

and not, as hitherto held, demonstrative or factual knowledge. Our doubt

is intended to define the boundary between knowledge and belief, and to

destroy that absolute confidence which is a hindrance rather than a help to

investigation. We should recognize it as a wise provision of nature that

the regulation of our thoughts and the belief in the objective validity

of our anticipation of future events have not been confided to the weak,

inconstant, inert, and fallacious reason, but to a powerful instinct. In

life and action we are governed by this natural impulse, in spite of all

the scruples of the skeptical reason.

[Footnote 1: Hume distinguishes belief as a form of knowledge from

religious faith, both in fact and in name. In the Treatise -- the passage

is wanting in the \_Enquiry\_--our conviction of the external existence of

the objects of perception is also ascribed to the former, which later

formed Jacobi's point of departure. Religious faith is referred to revelation.

In Hume's earlier work his destructive critique of the idea of cause

is accompanied by a deliverance in a similar strain on the concept of

substance, which is not included in the shorter revision. Substances are

not perceived through impressions, but only qualities and powers. The

unknown something which is supposed to have qualities, or in which these

are supposed to inhere, is an unnecessary fiction of the imagination. A

permanent similarity of attributes by no means requires a self-identical

support for these. A thing is nothing more than a collection of qualities,

to which we give a special name because they are always found together. The

idea of substance, like the idea of cause, is founded in a subjective habit

which we erroneously objectify. The impression from which it has arisen

is our inner perception that our thought remains constant in the repeated

experience of the same group of qualities (whenever I see sugar, \_I do the

same thing\_, that is, I combine the qualities white color, sweet taste,

hardness, etc., with one another), or the impression of a uniform

combination of ideas. The idea of substance becomes erroneous through the

fact that we refer it not to the inner activity of representation, to which

it rightly belongs, but to the external group of qualities, and make it

a real, permanent substratum for the latter. Mental substances disappear

along with material substances. The soul or mind is, in reality, nothing

more than the sum of our inner states, a collection of ideas which flow

on in a continuous and regular stream; it is like a stage, across which

feelings, perceptions, thoughts, and volitions are passing while it does

not itself come into sight. A permanent self or ego, as a substratum of

ideas, is not perceived; there is no invariable, permanent impression. That

which leads to the assumption of personal identity is

only the frequent

repetition of similar trains of ideas, and the gradual succession of

our ideas, which is easily confused with constancy. Thus robbed of its

substantiality, the soul has no further claims to immateriality and

immortality, and suicide ceases to be a crime.[1]

[Footnote 1: Cf. the essays on \_Suicide\_ and the Immortality of the Soul ,

1783, whose authorship by Hume, however, is not absolutely established [of.

Green and Grose, as above, p. 221, note first.--TR.]]

Is Hume roundly to be called a skeptic? [1] He never impugned the validity

of mathematical reasonings, nor experimental truths concerning matters of

fact; in regard to the former his thought is rationalistic, in regard to

the latter it is empirical or, more accurately, sensationalistic. His

attitude toward the empirical sciences of nature and of mind is that of a

semi-skeptic or probabilist, in so far as they go beyond the establishment

of facts to the proof of connections under law and to inferences concerning

the future. Habit is for him a safe guide for life, although it does not go

beyond probabilities; absolute knowledge is unattainable for us, but

not indispensable. Toward metaphysics, as an alleged science of the

suprasensible, he takes up an entirely negative attitude. If an argument

from experience is to be assured of merely that degree of probability which

is sufficient for belief, it must not only have a well-established fact (an

impression or memory-image) for its starting point, but, together with its

conclusion, it must keep within the limits of possible experience. The

limits of possible experience are also the limits of the knowable;

inferences to the continued existence of the soul after death and to the

being of God are vain sophistry and illusion. According to the famous

conclusion of the \_Essay\_, all volumes which contain anything other than

"abstract reasonings concerning quantity or number" or "experimental

reasonings concerning matter of fact and existence" deserve to be committed

to the flames. In view of this limitation of knowledge to that which is

capable of exact measurement and that which is present in experience, as

well of the principle that the elements added by thought are to be

sharply distinguished from the positively given (the immediate facts of

perception), we must agree with those who call Hume the father of modern positivism.[2]

[Footnote 1: In the \_Essay\_, Hume describes his own standpoint as mitigated

or academical skepticism in antithesis to the Cartesian, which from doubt

and through doubt hopes to reach the indubitable, and to the excessive

skepticism of Pyrrhonism, which cripples the impulse to inquiry. This

moderate skepticism asks us only, after resisting the tendency to

unreflecting conclusions, to make a duty of deliberation and caution in

judging, and to restrain inquiry within those fields which are accessible

to our knowledge, \_i.e.\_, the fields of mathematics and empirical fact. In

the \_Treatise\_ Hume had favored a sharper skepticism and extended his doubt

more widely,  $\_{\text{e.g.}}$ , even to the trustworthiness of geometry. Cf. on this

point Ed. Grimm, Zur Geschichte des

Erkenntnissproblems\_, 1890, p, 559
\_seq\_.]

[Footnote 2: So Volkelt, \_Erfahrung und Denken\_, 1886, p. 105.]

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As a philosopher of religion Hume is the finisher and destroyer of deism.

Of the three principles of the deists--religion, its origin and its truth

are objects of scientific investigation; religion has its origin in the

reason and the consciousness of duty; natural religion is the oldest, the

positive religions are degenerate or revived forms of natural religion--he

accepts the first, while rejecting the other two. Religion may correspond

to reason or contradict it, but not proceed from it. Religion has its basis

in human nature, yet not in its rational but its sensuous side; not in

the speculative desire for knowledge, but in practical needs; not in the

contemplation of nature, but in looking forward with fear or joy to the

changing events of human life. Anxiety and hope concerning future events

lead us to posit unseen powers as directing our destiny, and to seek their

favor. The capriciousness of fortune points to a plurality of gods;

the tendency to conceive all things like ourselves gives them human

characteristics; the powerful impression made by all that comes within the

sphere of the senses incites us to connect the divine power with visible

objects; the allegorical laudation and deification of eminent men leads to

a completed polytheism. That this and not (mono-) theism was the original

form of religion, Hume assumes to be a fact for

historical times, and a

well-founded conjecture for prehistoric ages. Those who hold that humanity

began with a perfect religion find it difficult to explain the obscuration

of the truth, endow immature ages with a developed use of the reason which

they can scarcely have possessed, make error grow worse with increasing

culture, and contradict the historical progress upward which is everywhere

else observed. The philosophical knowledge of God is a very late product of

mature reflection; even monotheism, as a popular religion, did not arise

from rational reflection, although its chief principle is in agreement

with the results of philosophy, but from the same irrational motives

as polytheism. Its origin from polytheism is accomplished by the

transformation of the leading god (the king of the gods or the tutelary

deity of the nation) through the fear and emulous flattery of his votaries

into the one, infinite, spiritual ruler of the world. Amid the folly of the

superstitious herd, however, this refined idea is not long preserved in its

purity; the more exalted the conception entertained of the supreme deity,

the more imperatively the need makes itself felt for the interpolation

between this being and mankind of mediators and demigods, partaking more

of the human nature of the worshipers and more familiar to them. Later

a new purification takes place, so that the history of religion shows a

continuous alternation of the lower and higher forms.

After depriving theism of its prerogative of originality, Hume further

takes away from it its fame as in every respect the best religion. It is

disadvantageously distinguished from polytheism by the fact that it is more

intolerant, makes its followers pusillanimous, and, by its incomprehensible

dogmas, puts their faith to severer tests; while it is on a level with

polytheism in that most of its adherents exalt belief in foolish mysteries,

fanaticism, and the observance of useless customs above the practice of virtue.

The \_Natural History of Religion\_, which far outbids the conclusions of

the deists by its endeavors to explain religion, not on rational, but on

historical and psychological grounds, and to separate it entirely

from knowledge by relegating it to the sphere of practice, leaves the

possibility of a philosophical knowledge of God an open question. The

\_Dialogues concerning Natural Religion\_ greatly diminish this hope.

The most cogent argument for the intelligence of the world-ground, the

teleological argument, is a hypothesis which has grave weaknesses, and one

to which many other equally probable hypotheses may be opposed. The finite

world, with its defects and abounding misery amid all its order and

adaptation, can never yield an inference to an infinite, perfect

unit-cause, to an all-powerful, all-wise, and benevolent deity. To this

the eleventh section of the \_Enquiry\_ adds the argument, that it is

inadmissible to ascribe to the inferred cause other properties than those

which are necessary to explain the observed effect. The tenth section of

the same \_Essay\_ argues that there is no miracle supported by a sufficient

number of witnesses credible because of their

intelligence and honesty, and

free from a preponderance of contradictory experiences and testimony of

greater probability. In short, the reason is neither capable of reaching

the existence of God by well-grounded inference nor of comprehending the

truth of the Christian religion with its accompanying miracles. That which

transcends experience cannot be proven and known, but only believed in.

Whoever is moved by faith to give assent to things which contradict all

custom and experience, is conscious of a continued miracle in his own person.

Hume never denied the existence of God, never directly impugned revelation.

His final word is doubt and uncertainty. It is certain that his counsel not

to follow the leadership of the reason in religious matters, but to submit

ourselves to the power of instinct and common opinion, was less earnest and

less in harmony with the nature of the philosopher than his other advice,

to take refuge from the strife of the various forms of superstition in the

more quiet, though dimmer regions of--naturally, the skeptical--philosophy.

Hume's originality and greatness in this field consist in his genetic view

of the historical religions. They are for him errors, but natural ones,

grounded in the nature of man, "sick men's dreams," whose origin and course

he searches out with frightful cold-bloodedness, with the dispassionate

interest of the dissector.

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In his moral philosophy[1] Hume shows himself the empiricist only, not the

skeptic. The laws of human nature are capable of just as exact empirical

investigation as those of external nature; observation and analysis promise

even more brilliant success in this most important, and yet hitherto so

badly neglected, branch of science than in physics. As knowledge and

opinion have been found reducible to the associative play of ideas, and the

store of ideas, again, to original impressions and shown derivable from

these; so man's volition and action present themselves as results of the

mechanical working of the passions, which, in turn, point further back to

more primitive principles. The ultimate motives of all action are pleasure

and pain, to which we owe our ideas of good and evil. The direct passions,

desire and aversion, joy and sorrow, hope and fear, are the immediate

effects of these original elements. From the direct arise in certain

circumstances the indirect passions, pride and humility, love and hatred

(together with respect and contempt); the first two, if the objects which

excite feeling are immediately connected with ourselves, the latter, when

pleasure and pain are aroused by the accomplishments or the defects of

others. While love and hate are always conjoined with a readiness

for action, with benevolence or anger, pride and humility are pure,

self-centered, inactive emotions.

[Footnote 1: Cf. G. von Gizycki, \_Die Ethik David Humes\_, 1878.]

All moral phenomena, will, moral judgment, conscience, virtue, are not simple and original data, but of a composite or

simple and original data, but of a composite or derivative nature. They are

without exception products of the regular interaction of the passions. With

such views there can be, of course, no question of a freedom of the will.

If anyone objects to determinism, that virtues and vices, if they are

involuntary and necessary, are not praise-or blameworthy, he is to be

referred to the applause paid to beauty and talent, which are considered

meritorious, although they are not dependent upon our choice. The legal

attitude of theology and law first caused all desert to be based upon

freedom, whereas the ancient philosophers spoke unhesitatingly of intellectual virtues.

Hume does not, like nearly all his predecessors and contemporaries, find

the determining grounds of volition in ideas, but in the feelings. After

curtailing the rights of the reason in the theoretical field in favor of

custom and instinct, he dispossesses her also in the sphere of practice.

Impassive reason, judging only of truth and falsehood, is an inactive

faculty, which of itself can never inspire us with inclination and desire

toward an object, can never itself become a motive. It is only capable

of influencing the will indirectly, through the aid of some affection.

Abstract relations of ideas, and facts as well, leave us entirely

indifferent so long as they fail to acquire an emotional value through

their relation to our state of mind. When we speak of a victory of reason

over passion it is nothing but a conquest of one passion by another, i.

e\_., of a violent passion by a calm one. That which is commonly called

reason here is nothing but one of those general and calm

affections (e.

g\_., the love of life) which direct the will to a
distant good, without

exciting any sensible emotion in the mind; by passion we commonly

understand the violent passions only, which engender a marked disturbance

in the soul and the production of which requires a certain propinquity of

the object. A man is said to be industrious "from reason," when a calm

desire for money makes him laborious. It is a mistake to consider all

violent passions powerful, and all calm ones weak. The prevalence of calm

affections constitutes the essence of strength of mind.

As reason is thus degraded from a governor of the will to a "slave of the

passions," so, further, judgment concerning right and wrong is taken away

from her. Moral distinctions are determined by our sense of the agreeable

and the disagreeable. We pass an immediate judgment of taste on the actions

of our fellow-men; the good pleases, evil displeases. The sight of virtue

gives us satisfaction; that of vice repels us.

Accordingly an action or

trait of mind is virtuous when it calls forth in the observer an agreeable,

disinterested sentiment of approbation.

What, then, are the actions which receive such general approval, and how is

the praise to be explained which the spectator bestows on them? We approve

such traits of character as are immediately agreeable or useful, either to

the person himself or to others. This yields four classes of praiseworthy

qualities. The first class, those which are agreeable to the possessor

(quite apart from any utility to himself or to others), includes

cheerfulness, greatness of mind, courage, tranquillity, and benevolence;

the second, those immediately agreeable to others, modesty, good manners,

politeness, and wit; the third, those useful to ourselves, strength of

will, industry, frugality, strength of body, intelligence and other mental

gifts. The fourth class comprises the highest virtues, the qualities useful

to others, benevolence and justice. Pleasure and utility are in all cases

the criterion of merit. The monkish virtues of humility and mortification

of the flesh, which bring no pleasure or advantage either to their

possessor or to society, are considered meritorious by no one who

understands the subject.

If the moral value of actions is thus made to depend on their effects, we

cannot dispense with the assistance of reason in judging moral questions,

since it alone can inform us concerning these results of action. Reason,

however, is not sufficient to determine us to praise or blame. Nothing but

a sentiment can induce us to give the preference to beneficial and useful

tendencies over pernicious ones. This feeling is evidently no other than

satisfaction in the happiness of men and uneasiness in view of their

misery--in short, it is sympathy. By means of the imagination we enter into

the experiences of others and participate in their joy and sorrow. Whatever

depresses or rejoices them, whatever inspires them with pride, fills us

with similar emotions. From the habit of sympathetically passing moral

judgment on the actions of others, and of seeing our own judged by them,

is developed the further one of keeping a constant watch

over ourselves and

of considering our dispositions and deeds from the standpoint of the good

of others. This custom is called conscience. Allied to this is the love of

reputation, which continually leads us to ask, How will our behavior appear

in the eyes of those with whom we associate?

Within the fourth and most important class, the social virtues, Hume

distinguishes between the natural virtues of humanity and benevolence and

the artificial virtues of justice and fidelity. The former proceed from our

inborn sympathy with the good of others, while the latter, on the other

hand, are not to be derived from a natural passion, an instinctive love of

humanity, but are the product of reflection and art, and take their origin

in a social convention.

In order that an action may gain the approval of the spectator two other

things are required besides its salutary effects: it must be a mark

of character, of a permanent disposition, and it must proceed from

disinterested motives. Hume is obliged by this latter position to show that

disinterested benevolence actually exists, that the unselfish affections

do not secretly spring from self-love. To cite only one of the thousand

examples of benevolence in which no discernible interest is concerned,

we desire happiness for our friends even when we have no expectation

of participating in it. The accounts of human selfishness are greatly

overdrawn, and those who deduce all actions from it make the mistake of

taking the inevitable consequences of virtue--the pleasure of self-approval

and of being esteemed by others--for the only motives to virtue. Because

virtue, in the outcome, produces inner satisfaction and is praised by

others, it does not follow that it is practiced merely for the sake of

these agreeable consequences. Self-love is a secondary impulse, whose

appearance at all presupposes primary impulses. Only after we have

experienced the pleasure which comes from the satisfaction of such an

original impulse ( $_{e}$ ,  $_{g}$ , ambition), can this become the object of a

conscious reflective search after pleasure, or of egoism. Power brings no

enjoyment to the man by nature devoid of ambition, and he who is naturally

ambitious does not desire fame because it affords him pleasure, but

conversely, fame affords him pleasure because he desires it. The natural

propensity which terminates directly on the object, without knowledge or

foresight of the pleasurable results, comes first, and egoistic reflection

directed toward the hoped-for enjoyment can develop only after this has

been satisfied. The case is the same with benevolence as with the love

of fame. It is implanted in the constitution of our minds as an original

impulse immediately directed toward the happiness of other men. After

it has been exercised and its exercise rewarded by self-satisfaction,

admiration, thanks, and reciprocation, it is indeed possible for the

expectation of such agreeable consequences to lead us to the repetition of

beneficent acts. But the original motive is not an egoistic, regard for

useful consequences. If, from the force of the passion alone, vengeance

may be so eagerly pursued that every consideration of

personal quiet and

security is silenced, it may also be conceded that humanity causes us

to forget our own interests. Nay, further, the social affections, as

Shaftesbury has proven, are the strongest of all, and the man will rarely

be found in whom the sum of the benevolent impulses will not outweigh that

of the selfish ones.

In the section on justice Hume attacks the contract theory. Law, property,

and the sacredness of contracts exist first in society, but not first in

the state. The obligation to observe contracts is, indeed, made stronger by

the civil law and civil authority, but not created by them. Law arises from

convention, \_i. e\_., not from a formal contract, but a
tacit agreement, a

sense of common interest, and this agreement, in turn, proceeds from an

original propensity to enter into social relations. The unsocial and

lawless state of nature is a philosophical fiction which has never existed;

men have always been social. They have all at least been born into the

society of the family, and they know no-more terrible punishment than

isolation. States are not created, however, by a voluntary act, but have

their roots in history. The question at issue between Hobbes and Hume was

thus adjusted at a later period by Kant: the state, it is true, has not

historically arisen from a contract, yet it is allowable and useful to

consider it under the aspect of a contract as a regulative idea.

Only once since David Hume, in Herbert Spencer, has the English nation

produced a mind of like comprehensive power. Hume and Locke form the

culminating points of English thought. They are national types, in that

in them the two fundamental tendencies of English thinking, clearness of

understanding and practical sense, were manifested in equal force. In Locke

these worked together in harmonious co-operation. In Hume the friendly

alliance is broken, the common labor ceases; each of the two demands its

full rights; a painful breach opens up between science and life. Reason

leads inevitably to doubt, to insight into its own weakness, while life

demands conviction. The doubter cannot act, the agent cannot know. It is

true that a substitute is found for defective knowledge in belief based

upon instinct and custom; but this is a makeshift, not a solution of the

problem, an acknowledgment of the evil, not a cure for it. Further, Hume's

greatness does not consist in the fact that he preached modesty to the

contending parties, that he banished the doubting reason into the study

and restricted life to belief in probabilities, but in the mental strength

which enabled him to endure sharp contradictions, and, instead of an

overhasty and easy reconciliation, to suspend the one impulse until the

other had made its demands thoroughly, completely, and regardlessly heard.

Though he is distinguished from other skeptics by the fact that he not

only shows the fundamental conceptions of our knowledge of nature and the

principles of religion uncertain and erroneous, but finds necessary

errors in them and acutely uncovers their origin in the lawful workings

of our inner life, yet his historical influence

essentially rests on his

skepticism. In his own country it roused in the "Scottish School" the

reaction of common sense, while in Germany it helped to wake a kindred but

greater spirit from the bonds of his dogmatic slumbers, and to fortify him

for his critical achievements.

(c) %The Scottish School%.--Priestley's associational
psychology,

Berkeley's idealism, and Hume's skepticism are legitimate deductions from

Locke's assumption that the immediate objects of thought are not things but

ideas, and that judgment or knowledge arises from the combination of ideas

originally separate. The absurdity of the consequences shows the falsity of

the premises. The true philosophy must not contradict common sense. It

is not correct to look upon the mind as a sheet of white paper on which

experience inscribes single characters, and then to make the understanding

combine these originally disconnected elements into judgments by means of

comparison, and the belief in the existence of the object come in as a

later result added to the ideas by reflection. It is rather true that the

elements discovered by the analysis of the cognitive processes are far from

being the originals from which these arise. It is not isolated ideas that

come first, but judgments, self-evident axioms of the understanding, which

form part of the mental constitution with which God has endowed us; and

sensation is accompanied by an immediate belief in the reality of the

object. Sensation guarantees the presence of an external thing possessing a

certain character, although it is not an image of this property, but merely

a sign for something in no wise resembling itself.

This is the standpoint of the founder[1] of the Scottish School, Thomas

Reid (1710-96, professor in Aberdeen and Glasgow; \_An Inquiry into the

Human Mind on the Principles of Common Sense\_, 1764; Essays on the

Intellectual Powers of Man\_, 1785, \_Essays on the Active Powers , 1788,

together under the title, \_Essays on the Powers of the Human Mind.

Collected Works\_, 1804, and often since, especially the edition by

Hamilton, with valuable notes and dissertations, 7th ed., 2 vols., 1872).

We may recognize in it a revival of the common notions of Herbert, as well

as a transfer of the innate faculty of judgment inculcated by the ethical

and aesthetic writers from the practical to the theoretical field; the

"common sense" of Reid is an original sense for truth, as the "taste"

of Shaftesbury and Hutcheson was a natural sense for the good and the

beautiful. Like Jacobi at a later period, Reid points out that mediate,

reasoned knowledge presupposes a knowledge which is immediate, and all

inference and demonstration, fixed, undemonstrable, immediately certain

fundamental truths. The fundamental judgments or principles of common

sense, which are true for us, even if [possibly] not true in themselves,

are discoverable by observation (empirical rationalism). In the enumeration

of them two dangers are to be avoided: we must neither raise contingent

principles to the position of axioms, nor, from an exaggerated endeavor

after unity, underestimate the number of these selfevident principles.

Reid himself is always more sparing with them than his

disciples. He distinguishes two classes: first principles of necessary truth, and first principles of contingent truth or truth of fact. As first principles of necessary truth he cites, besides the axioms of logic and mathematics, grammatical, aesthetic, moral, and metaphysical principles (among the last belong the principles: "That the qualities which we perceive by our senses must have a subject, which we call body, and that the thoughts we are conscious of must have a subject, which we call mind"; "that whatever begins to exist, must have a cause which produced it"). He lays down twelve principles as the basis of our knowledge of matters of fact, in which his reference to the doubt of Berkeley and Hume is evident. The most important of these are: "The existence of everything of which I am conscious"; "that the thoughts of which I am conscious, are the thoughts of a being which I call myself, my mind, my person"; "our own personal identity and continued existence, as far back as we remember anything distinctly"; "that those things do really exist which we distinctly perceive by our senses, and are what we perceive them to be"; "that we have some degree of power over our actions, and the determinations of our will"; "that there is life and intelligence in our fellow-men"; "that there is a certain regard due... to human authority in matters of opinion"; "that, in the phenomena of nature, what is to be, will probably be like what has been in similar circumstances."

[Footnote 1: In the sense of "chief founder"; cf. McCosh's Scottish

Philosophy\_, 1875, pp. 36, 68 \_seq\_., which is the standard authority on the school as a whole.--TR.]

The widespread and lasting favor experienced by this theory, with its

invitation to forget all earnest work in the problems of philosophy

by taking refuge in common sense, shows that a general relaxation had

succeeded the energetic endeavors which Hume had demanded of himself and

of his readers. With this declaration of the infallibility of common

consciousness, the theory of knowledge, which had been so successfully

begun, was incontinently thrust aside, although, indeed, empirical

psychology gained by the industrious investigation of the inner life by

means of self-observation. James Beattie continued the attack on Hume

in his \_Essay on the Nature and Immutability of Truth in Opposition to

Sophistry and Skepticism\_, 1770, on the principle that wisdom must never

contradict nature, and that whatever our nature compels us to believe,

hence whatever all agree in, is true. In his briefer dissertations Beattie

discussed Memory and Imagination, Fable and Romance, the Effects of

Poetry and Music, Laughter, the Sublime, etc. While Beattie had given the

preference to psychological and aesthetic questions, James Oswald (1772)

appealed to common sense in matters of religion, describing it as an

instinctive faculty of judgment concerning truth and falsehood. The most

eminent among the followers of Reid was Dugald Stewart (professor in

Edinburgh; \_Elements of the Philosophy of the Human Mind\_, 1792-1827;

\_Collected Works\_, edited by Hamilton, 1854-58), who developed the

doctrines of the master and in some points modified them. Thomas

Brown (1778-1820), who is highly esteemed by Mill, Spencer, and Bain,

approximated the teachings of Reid and Stewart to those of Hume. The

philosophy of the Scottish School was long in favor both in England and in

France, where it was employed as a weapon against materialism.

By way of appendix we may mention the beginnings of a psychological

aesthetics in Henry Home (Lord Kames, 1696-1782), and Edmund Burke

(1728-97).[1] Home, in ethics a follower of Hutcheson, is fond of

supporting his aesthetic views by examples from Shakespeare. Beauty (chap.

iii.) appears to belong to the object itself, but in reality it is only an

effect, a "secondary quality," of the object; like color, it is nothing but

an idea in the mind, "for an object is said to be beautiful for no other

reason but that it appears so to the spectator." It arises from regularity,

proportion, order, simplicity--properties which belong to sublimity as well

(chap, iv.), but to which they are by no means so essential, since it is

satisfied with a less degree of them. While the beautiful excites emotions

of sweetness and gayety, the sublime rouses feelings which are agreeable,

it is true, but which are not sweet and gay, but strong and more serious.

Burke's explanation goes deeper. He derives the antithesis of the sublime

and the beautiful from the two fundamental impulses of human nature, the

instinct of self-preservation and the social impulse. Whatever is contrary

to the former makes a strong and terrible impression on the soul; whatever

favors the latter makes a weak but agreeable one. The terrible delights us

(first depressing and then exalting us), when we merely contemplate it,

without being ourselves affected by the danger or the pain--this is the

sublime. On the other hand, that is beautiful which inspires us with

tenderness and affection without our desiring to possess it. Sublimity

implies a certain greatness, beauty, a certain smallness. Delight in both

is based on bodily phenomena. Terror moderated exercises a beneficent

influence on the nerves by stimulating them and giving them tension;

the gentle impression of beauty exerts a quieting effect upon them. The

disturbances caused by the former, and the recovery induced by the latter,

are both conducive to health, and hence, experienced as pleasures.

[Footnote 1: Home, \_Elements of Criticism\_, 1762. Burke, A Philosophical

Inquiry info the Origin of our Ideas of the Sublime and the Beautiful\_, 1756.]

### CHAPTER VI.

### THE FRENCH ILLUMINATION.

In the last decade of the seventeenth century France had yielded the

leadership in philosophy to England. Whereas Hobbes had in Paris imbibed

the spirit of the Galilean and Cartesian inquiry, while Bacon, Locke, and

even Hume had also visited France with advantage, now French thinkers take

the watchword from the English. Montesquieu and Voltaire, returning from

England in the same year (1729), acquaint their countrymen with the ideas

of Locke and his contemporaries. These are eagerly caught up; are, step

by step, and with the logical courage characteristic of the French mind,

developed to their extreme conclusions; and, at the same time, spread

abroad in this heightened form among the people beyond the circles of the

learned, nay, even beyond the educated classes. The English temperament is

favorable neither to this advance to extreme revolutionary inferences nor

to this propagandist tendency. Locke combines a rationalistic ethics with

his semi-sensational theory of knowledge; Newton is far from finding in his

mechanical physics a danger for religious beliefs; the deists treat the

additions of positive religion rather as superfluous ballast than as

hateful unreason; Bolingbroke wishes at least to conceal from the people

the illuminating principles which he offers to the higher classes. Such

halting where farther progress threatens to become dangerous to moral

interests does more honor to the moral, than to the logical, character of

the philosopher. But with the transfer of these ideas to France, the wall

of separation is broken down between the theory of knowledge and the theory

of ethics, between natural philosophy and the philosophy of religion;

sensationalism forces its way from the region of theory into the sphere

of practice, and the mechanical theory is transformed from a principal

of physical interpretation into a metaphysical view of

the world of an

atheistical character. Naturalism is everywhere determined to have its

own: if knowledge comes from the senses, then morality must be rooted

in self-interest; whoever confines natural science to the search for

mechanical causes must not postulate an intelligent Power working from

design, even to explain the origin of things and the beginning of

motion--has no right to speak of a free will, an immortal soul, and a deity

who has created the world. Further, as Bayle's proof that the dogmas of

the Church were in all points contradictory to reason had, contrary to its

author's own wishes, exerted an influence hostile to religion, and as,

moreover, the political and social conditions of the time incited to revolt

and to a break with all existing institutions, the philosophical ideas from

over the Channel and the condition of things at home alike pressed toward

a revolutionary intensification of modern principles, which found

comprehensive expression in the atheists' Bible, the \_System of Nature\_ of

Baron Holbach, 1770. The movement begins in the middle of the thirties,

when Montesquieu commences to naturalize Locke's political views in France,

and Voltaire does the same service for Locke's theory of knowledge,

and Newton's natural philosophy, which had already been commended by

Maupertuis. The year 1748, the year also of Hume's Essay , brings

Montesquieu's chief work and La Mettrie's \_Man a Machine . While the

\_Encyclopedia\_, the herald of the Illumination, begun in 1751, is advancing

to its completion (1772, or rather 1780), Condillac (1754) and Bonnet

(1755) develop theoretical sensationalism, and Helvetius (  ${\tt On\ Mind\ }$  ,

1758; in the same year, D'Alembert's \_Elements of Philosophy\_) practical

sensationalism. Rousseau, engaged in authorship from 1751 and a contributor

to the \_Encyclopedia\_ until 1757 comes into prominence, 1762, with his two

chief works, \_Emile\_ and the \_Social Contract\_. Parallel with these we

find interesting phenomena in the field of political economy: Morelly's

communistic \_Code of Nature\_ (1755), the works of Quesnay (1758), the

leader of the physiocrats, and those of Turgot, 1774.

Our discussion takes up, first, the introduction and popularization of

English ideas; then, the further development of these into a consistent

sensationalism, into the morality of interest, and into materialism;

finally, the reaction against the illumination of the understanding in

Rousseau's philosophy of feeling.[1]

[Footnote 1: On the whole chapter cf. Damiron, \_Mémoires pour Servir à

l'Histoire de la Philosophie au XVIII. Siécle\_, 3 vols., 1858-64; and

John Morley's \_Voltaire\_, 1872 [1886], \_Rousseau\_, 1873 [1886], and

\_Diderot and the Encyclopedists\_, 1878 [new ed., 1886].]

# 1. %The Entrance of English Doctrines%.

Montesquieu[1] (1689-1755) made Locke's doctrine of constitutional

monarchy and the division of powers (pp. 179-180), with which he joins the

historical point of view of Bodin and the naturalistic positions of the

time, the common property of the cultivated world. Laws must be adapted to

the character and spirit of the nation; the spirit of the people, again,

is the result of nature, of the past, of manners, of religion, and of

political institutions. Nature has bestowed many gifts on the Southern

peoples, but few on those of the North; hence the latter need freedom,

while the former readily dispense with it. Warm climates produce greater

sensibility and passionateness, cold ones, muscular vigor and industry; in

the temperate zones nations are less constant in their habits, their vices,

and their virtues. The laws of religion concern man as man, those of the

state concern him as a citizen; the former have for their object the moral

good of the individual, the latter, the welfare of society; the first aim

at immutable, the second at mutable good. Laws and manners are closely

interrelated. Right is older than the state, and the law of justice holds

even in the state of nature; but in order to assure peace positive right is

required in three forms, international, political, and civil.

[Footnote 1: Montesquieu, \_Persian Letters\_, 1721; Considerations on

the Causes of the Greatness of the Romans and of their Decadence\_, 1734;

\_Spirit of Laws\_, 1748.]

Each of the four political forms has a passion for its underlying

principle: despotism has fear; monarchy, honor (personal
and class

prejudice); aristocracy, the moderation of the nobility; democracy,

political virtue, which subordinates personal to general welfare, and

especially the inclination to equality and frugality. While republics are

destroyed by extravagance, lust, and self-seeking, a monarchy can dispense

with civil virtue, patriotism, and moral

disinterestedness, since in it

false honor, luxury, and wantonness subserve the public good. Great states

tend toward despotism; smaller ones toward aristocracy, or a democratic

republicanism; for those of medium size monarchy, which is intermediate

between the two former, is the best form of constitution. Although

Montesquieu, in his \_Lettres Persanes\_, shows himself enthusiastic for the

federal republics of Switzerland and the Netherlands, his opinions are

different after his return from England, and in his
\_Esprit des Lois\_ he

praises the English form of government as the ideal of civil liberty.

Political freedom consists in liberty to do (not what we wish, but) what

we ought, or in doing that which the laws allow. Such lawful freedom is

possible only where the constitution of the state and criminal legislation

inspire the citizen with a sense of security. In order to prevent misuse of

the supreme power, the different authorities in the state must be divided

so that they shall hold one another in check. In particular Montesquieu

demands for the judicial power absolute independence of the executive power

(which Locke had termed the federative) as well as of the legislative

power. The last belongs to parliament, which includes in its two houses an

aristocratic and a democratic element.

Voltaire[1] (1694-1778)--he himself had made this anagram from his name,

Arouet l(e) j(eune)--seemed by his many-sided receptivity almost made to be

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the interpreter of English ideas; in the words of
Windelband, he "combines
Newton's mechanical philosophy of nature, Locke's
noëtical empiricism, and
Shaftesbury's moral philosophy under the deistic point
of view." The
same qualities which made him the first journalist,
enabled him to free
philosophy from its scholastic garb, and, by
concentrating it on the
problems which press most upon the lay mind (God,
freedom, immortality),
to make it a living force among the people. His
superficiality, as Erdmann
acutely remarks, was his strength. True religion, so
reason teaches us,
consists in loving God and in being just and forbearing
to our fellow-men
as to our brothers; morality is so natural and necessary
that it is no
wonder that all philosophers since Zoroaster have
inculcated the same
principles. The less of dogma the better the religion;
atheism is not
so bad as superstition, which teaches men to commit
crimes with an easy
conscience. He considered it the chief mission of his
life to destroy these
two miserable errors. He endeavored to controvert
atheism by rational
arguments, while with passionate hatred and contemptuous
wit he attacked
positive Christianity and his persecutors, the
priesthood. The existence
of God is for him not merely a moral postulate, but a
result of scientific
reasoning. One of his famous sayings was: "If God did
not exist it would be
necessary to invent him; but all nature cries out to us
that he exists." He
defends immortality in spite of theoretical
difficulties, because of its
practical necessity; his attitude toward the freedom of
the will, which
he had energetically defended in the beginning, grows
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constantly more

skeptical with increasing age. His position in regard to the question

of evil experiences a similar change--the Lisbon earthquake made him an

opponent of optimism, though he had previously favored it.

[Footnote 1: David Friedrich Strauss, \_Voltaire, sechs Vorträge\_, 1870.]

### %2. Theoretical and Practical Sensationalism.%

We turn next from the popular introduction and dissemination of Locke's

doctrines, which left their contents unchanged, to their principiant

development by the French sensationalists. Condillac (1715-80) always

thinks of his work as a completion of Locke's, whose Essay he held not to

have gone down to the final root of the cognitive process. Locke did not

go far enough, Condillac thinks, in his rejection of innate elements; he

failed to trace out the origin of perception, reflection, cognition, and

volition, as also the relation between the external senses, the internal

sense, and the combining intellect, which he discussed as separate sources,

the two former of particular, and the last of complex, ideas; in short,

he omitted to inquire into the origin of the first function of the soul.

Berkeley was right in feeling that a simplification was needed here; but by

erroneously reducing outer perception to inner perception, he reached the

absurd conclusion of denying the external world. The true course is just

the opposite of this--the one already taken by the Bishop of Cork, Peter

Browne (died 1735; The Procedure, Extent, and Limits of

the Human

Understanding\_, 1728): understanding and reflection must be reduced to

sensation. All psychical functions are transformed sensations. The soul has

only one original faculty, that of sensation; all the others, theoretical

and practical alike, are acquired, \_i.e.\_, they have gradually developed

from the former. Condillac is related to Locke as Fichte to Kant; in

the former case the transition is mediated by Browne, in the latter

by Reinhold. Each crowns the work of his predecessor with a unifying

conclusion; each demands and offers a genetic psychology which finds the

origin of all the spiritual functions--from sensation and feelings of

pleasure and pain up to rational cognition and moral will--in a single

fundamental power of the soul. But there is a great difference, materially

as well as formally, between these kindred undertakings, a difference

corresponding to that between Locke's empiricism and Kant's idealism.

The idea of ends, which controls the course of thought in Fichte as in

Leibnitz, is entirely lacking in Condillac; that which is first in time,

sensation, is for the Science of Knowledge and the Monadology only the

beginning, not the essence, of psychical activity, while Condillac makes

no distinction between beginning and ground, but expressly identifies

\_principe\_ and \_commencement\_. With Fichte and Leibnitz sensation is

immature thought, with Condillac thought is refined sensation. The former

teach a teleological, the latter a mechanical mono-dynamism. The Science

of Knowledge, moreover, makes a very serious task of the deduction of the

particular psychical functions from the original power, while Condillac

takes it extraordinarily easy. Good illustrations of his way of effacing

distinctions instead of explaining them are given by such monotonously

recurring phrases as memory is "nothing but" modified sensation; comparison

and simultaneous attention to two ideas "are the same thing"; sensation

"gradually becomes" comparison and judgment; reflection is "in its origin"

attention itself; speech, thought, and the formation of general notions

are "at bottom the same"; the passions are "only" various kinds of desire;

understanding and will spring "from one root," etc.

The demand for a single fundamental psychical power comes from Descartes,

and Condillac does not hesitate to retain the word
\_penser\_ itself as a

general designation for all mental functions. Similarly he holds fast to

the dualism between extension and sensation as reciprocally incompatible

properties, opposes the soul as the "simple" subject of thought to

"divisible" matter, and sees in the affections of the bodily organs merely  $% \left( 1\right) =\left( 1\right) +\left( 1\right)$ 

the "occasions" on which the soul of itself alone exercises its sensitive

activity. Even freedom--the supremacy of thought over the passions--is

maintained, in striking contrast to the whole tendency of his doctrine and

to the openly announced principle, that pleasure controls the attention and

governs all our actions. He has just as little intention of doubting the

existence of God. All is dependent on God. He is our lawgiver; it is in

virtue of his wisdom that from small beginnings--perception and need--the

most splendid results, science and morality, are

developed under the hands of man. Whoever undertakes to complain that He has concealed from us the nature of things and granted us to know relations alone, forgets that we need no more than this. We do not exist in order to know; to live is to

The theme of the \_Treatise on the Sensations\_, 1754, is: Memory,

enjoy.

comparison, judgment, abstraction, and reflection (in a word, cognition)

are nothing but different forms of attention; similarly the emotions, the

appetites, and the will, nothing but modifications of desire; while both

alike take their origin in sensation. Sensation is the sole source and the

sole content of the life of the mind as a whole. To prove these positions

Condillac makes use of the fiction of a statue, in which one sense awakes

after another, first the lowest of the senses, smell, and last the most

valuable, the sense of touch, which compels us (by its perception of

density or resistance) to project our sensations, and thus wakes in us the

idea of an external world. In themselves sensations are merely subjective

states, modes of our own being; without the sense of touch we would ascribe

odor, sound, and color to ourselves. Condillac distinguishes between

sensation and \_ideas\_ in a twofold sense, as mere ideas (the memory or

imagination of something not present), and as ideas of objective things

(the image, representative of a body); this latter sense is meant when he

says, touch sensations only are also ideas.

For the details of the deduction, which often makes very happy use of a

rich store of psychological material, the reader must be referred to the

more extended expositions. Here we can only cite as examples the chief

among the genetic definitions. Perceptions (impressions) and consciousness

are the same thing under different names. A lively sensation, in which the

mind is entirely occupied, becomes attention, without the necessity of

assuming an additional special faculty in the mind. Attention, by its

retentive effect on the sensation, becomes memory. Double attention--to

a new sensation, and to the lingering trace of the previous one--is

comparison; the recognition of a relation (resemblance or difference)

between two ideas is judgment; the separation of an idea from another

naturally connected with it, by the aid of voluntary linguistic symbols,

is abstraction; a series of judgments is reflection; and the sum total of

inner phenomena, that wherein ideas succeed one another, the ego or person.

All truths concern relations among ideas. The tactual idea of solidity

accustoms us to project the sensations of the other senses also, to

transfer them thither where they are not; hence arise the ideas of our

body, of external objects, and of space. If we perceive several such

projected qualities together, we refer them to a substratum--substance,

which we know to exist, although not what it is. By force we mean the

unknown, but indubitably existent, cause of motion.

There are no indifferent mental states; every sensation is accompanied by

pleasure or pain. Joy and pain give the determining law for the operation

of our faculties. The soul dwells longer on agreeable

sensations; without

interest, ideas would pass away like shadows. The remembrance of past

impressions more agreeable than the present ones is need; from this

springs desire (\_désir\_) then the emotions of love, hate, hope, fear, and

astonishment; finally, the will as an unconditional desire accompanied by

the thought of its possible fulfillment. All inclinations, good and bad

alike, spring from self-love. The predicates "good" and "beautiful"

denote the pleasure-giving qualities of things, the former, that which is

agreeable to smell and taste (and the passions), the latter, that which

pleases sight, hearing, feeling (and the intellect). Morality is the

conformity of our actions to laws, which men have established by convention

with mutual obligations. In this way the good, which at first was the

servant of the passions, becomes their lord.

Man's superiority to the brute depends on the greater perfection of his

sense of touch; on the greater variety of his wants and his associations

of ideas; on the idea of death, which leads him to seek not merely the

avoidance of pain but also self-preservation; and the possession of

language. Without denomination no abstractions, no thought, no handing

down of knowledge. Although all that is mental has its origin, in the last

analysis, in simple sensations, its development requires emancipation from

the sensuous, and language is the means for freeing ourselves from the

pressure of sensations by the generalization and combination of ideas.

A more moderate representative of sensationalism was

Charles Bonnet, who

later exercised a considerable influence in Germany, especially until

Tetens (1720-93;  $\_$ Essay in Psychology, or Considerations on the Operations

of the Soul\_, 1755; \_Analytical Essay on the Faculties of the Soul\_, 1760;

\_Philosophical Palingenesis, or Ideas on the Past and the Future of Living

Beings\_, 1769, including a defense of Christianity; Collected Works ,

1779). Sensations, to which he, too, reduces all mental life, are, in his

view, reactions of the immaterial soul to sense stimuli, which operate

merely as occasional causes. On the other hand, he emphasizes more strongly

than Condillac the dependence of psychical phenomena on physiological

conditions, and endeavors to show definite brain vibrations as the basis

not only of habit, memory, and the association of ideas, but also of

the higher mental operations. In harmony with these views he adheres to

determinism, and finds the motive of all endeavor: in self-love, and

its ultimate aim in happiness. To the latter the hope of immortality is

indispensable. The link between Bonnet's theory of the thoroughgoing

dependence of the soul on the body and his orthodox convictions, is formed

by his idea of an imperishable ethereal body, which enables the soul in the

life to come to remember its life on earth and, after the dissolution of

the present material body, to acquire a new one. Animals as well as men

share in the continuance of existence and the transition to a higher stage.

The material earnestness of these thinkers is in sharp contrast to the

superficial and frivolous manner in which Helvetius

(1715-71) carries out

sensationalism in the sphere of ethics. His chief work, \_On Mind\_, came out

in 1758; and a year after his death, the work \_On Man, his Intellectual

Faculties and his Education\_. The search for pleasure or self-love is, as

Helvetius thinks he has discovered for the first time,[1] the only motive

of action; the laws of interest reign in the moral world as the laws of

motion in the physical world; justice and love for our neighbors are

based on utility; we seek friends in order to be amused, aided, and, in

misfortune, compassionated by them; the philanthropist and the monster both

seek only their own pleasure.

[Footnote 1: In reality not only English moralists, but also some among his

countrymen, had anticipated him in the position that all actions proceed

from selfishness, and that virtue is merely a refined egoism. Thus La

Rochefoucauld in his \_Maxims (Réflexions, ou Sentences et Maximes Morales ,

1665), La Bruyère \_(Les Charactères et les Moeurs de ce Siécle\_, 1687), and

La Mettrie (of. pp, 251-253).]

Helvetius draws the proof for these positions from Condillac. Recollection

and judgment are sensation. The soul is originally nothing more than the

capacity for sensation; it receives the stimulus to its development from

self-love, \_i.e.\_, from powerful passions such as the love of fame, on the

one hand, and, on the other, from hatred of \_ennui\_, which induces man to

overcome the indolence natural to him and to submit himself to the irksome

effort of attention--without passion he would remain stupid. The sum of

ideas collected in him is called intellect. All distinctions among men

are acquired, and concern the intellect only, not the soul: that which is

innate--sensibility and self-love--is the same in all;
differences arise

only through external circumstances, through education. Man is the pupil of

all that environs him, of his situation and his chance experience. The most

important instrument in education is the law; the function of the lawgiver

is to connect public and personal welfare by means of rewards and

punishments, and thus to elevate morality. A man is called virtuous when

his stronger passions harmonize with the general interest. Unfortunately

the virtues of prejudice, which do not contribute to the public good, are

more honored among most nations than the political virtues, to which alone

real merit belongs. And self-interest is always the one motive to just and

generous action; we serve only our own interests in furthering the welfare

of the community. As the promulgator of these doctrines was himself a kind

and generous man, Rousseau could make to him the apt reply: You endeavor in

vain to degrade yourself below your own level; your spirit gives evidence

against your principles; your benevolent heart discredits your doctrines.

The morality of enlightened self-love or "intelligent self-interest"

appears in a milder form in Maupertuis (\_Works\_, 1752), and Frederick the

Great,[1] to the latter of whom D'Alembert objected by letter that interest

could never generate the sense of duty and reverence for the law.

[Footnote 1: Essay on Self-love as a Principle of

Morals\_, 1770, printed in the proceedings of the Academy of Sciences. Cf. on Frederick, Ed. Zeller, 1886.]

## %3. Skepticism and Materialism.%

The ideas thus far developed move in a direction whose further pursuit

inevitably issues in materialism. Diderot, the editor of the \_Encyclopedia

of the Sciences, Arts, and Trades\_ (1751-72), which gathered all the

currents of the Illumination into one great stream and carried them to the

open sea of popular culture, reflects in his intellectual development

the dialectical movement from deism through skepticism to atheism and

materialism, and was a co-laborer in the work which brought the whole

movement to a conclusion, Holbach's \_System of Nature\_. Two decades,

however, before the latter work, the outcome of a long development of

thought, appeared, the physician La Mettrie[1] (1709-51) had promulgated

materialism, though rather in an anthropological form than as a

world-system, and with cynical satisfaction in the violation of traditional

beliefs--in his \_Natural History of the Soul\_, 1745, in a disguised form,

and, undisguised, in his \_Man a Machine\_, 1748--and at the same time

(\_Anti-Seneca, or Discourse on Happiness\_, 1748) had sketched out for

Helvetius the outlines of the sensationalistic morality of interest. While

ill with a violent fever he observed the influence of the heightened

circulation of the blood on his mental tone, and inferred that thought is

the result of the bodily organization. The soul can only

be known from the

body. The senses, the best philosophers, teach us that matter is never

without form and motion; and whether all matter is sentient or not,

certainly all that is sentient is material, and every part of the organism

contains a vital principle (the heart of a frog beats for an hour after

its removal from the body; the parts of cut-up polyps grow into perfect

animals). All ideas come from without, from the senses; without

sense-impressions no ideas, without education, few ideas, the mind of a man

grown up in isolation remains entirely undeveloped; and since the soul is

entirely dependent on the bodily organs, along with which it originates,

grows, and declines, it is subject to mortality. Not only animals, as

Descartes has shown, but men, who differ from the brutes only in degree,

are mere machines; by the soul we mean that part of the body which thinks,

and the brain has fine muscles for thinking as the leg its coarse ones for walking.

[Footnote 1: La Mettrie was born at St. Malo, and educated in Paris, and in

Leyden under Boerhave; he died in Berlin, whither Frederick the Great

had called him after he had been driven out of his native land and from  $\,$ 

Holland. On La Mettrie cf. Lange, \_History of Materialism\_, vol. ii. pp.

49-91; and DuBois-Reymond's Address, 1875.]

If man is nothing but body, there is no other pleasure than that of the

body. There is a difference, however, between sensuous pleasure, which is

intense and brief, and intellectual pleasure, which is calm and lasting.

The educated man will prefer the latter, and find in it a higher and more

noble happiness; but nature has been just enough to grant the common

multitude, in the coarser pleasures, a more easily attainable happiness.

Enjoy the moment, till the farce of life is ended! Virtue exists only in

society, which restrains from evil by its laws, and incites to good by

rousing the love of honor. The good man, who subordinates his own welfare

to that of society, acts under the same necessity as the evil-doer; hence

repentance and pangs of conscience, which increase the amount of pain

in the world, but are incapable of effecting amendment, are useless and

reprehensible: the criminal is an ill man, and must not be more harshly

punished than the safety of society requires.

Materialism humanizes and

exercises a tranquilizing influence on the mind, as the religious view of

the world, with its incitement to hatred, disturbs it; materialism frees

us from the sense of guilt and responsibility, and from the fear of future

suffering. A state composed of atheists, is not only possible, as Bayle

argued, but it would be the happiest of all states.

Among the editors of the \_Encyclopedia\_, the mathematician D'Alembert

\_(Elements of Philosophy\_, 1758) remained loyal to skeptical views. Neither

matter nor spirit is in its essence knowable; the world is probably quite

different from our sensuous conception of it. As Diderot (1713-84), and

the \_Encyclopedia\_ with him, advanced from skepticism to materialism,

D'Alembert retired from the editorial board (1757), after Rousseau, also,

had separated himself from the Encyclopedists.

Diderot[1] was the leading

spirit in the second half of the eighteenth century, as Voltaire in the

first half. His lively and many-sided receptivity, active industry, clever

and combative eloquence, and enthusiastic disposition qualified him for

this rôle beyond all his contemporaries, who testify that they owe even

more to his stimulating conversation than to his writings. He commenced by

bringing Shaftesbury's \_Inquiry into Virtue and Merit\_
to the notice of

his countrymen; and then turned his sword, on the one hand, against the

atheists, to refute whom, he thought, a single glance into the microscope

was sufficient, and, on the other, against the traditional belief in a

God of anger and revenge, who takes pleasure in bathing in the tears of

mankind. Then followed a period of skepticism, which is well illustrated by

the prayer in the \_Thoughts on the Interpretation of Nature , 1754: O God!

I do not know whether thou art, but I will guide my thoughts and actions

as though thou didst see me think and act, etc. Under the influence

of Holbach's circle he finally reached (in the Conversation between

D'Alembert and Diderot\_, and \_D'Alembert's Dream\_, written in 1769, but not

published until 1830, in vol. iv. of the \_Mémoires, Correspondance, et

Ouvrages Inédits de Diderot\_) the position of naturalistic monism--there

exists but one great individual, the All. Though he had formerly

distinguished thinking substance from material substance, and had based the

immortality of the soul on the unity of sensation and the unity of the ego,

he now makes sensation a universal and essential property of matter

(\_la pierre sent\_), declares the talk about the simplicity of the

soul metaphysico-theological nonsense, calls the brain a self-playing

instrument, ridicules self-esteem, shame, and repentance as the absurd

folly of a being that imputes to itself merit or demerit for necessary

actions, and recognizes no other immortality than that of posthumous fame.

But even amid these extreme conclusions, his enthusiasm for virtue remains

too intense to allow him to assent to the audacious theories of La Mettrie and Helvetius.

[Footnote 1: \_Works\_ in twenty-two vols., Paris, Brière, 1821; latest

edition, 1875 \_seq\_. Cf. on Diderot the fine work by Karl Rosenkranz,

\_Diderots Leben und Werke\_, 1866.]

French natural science also tended toward materialism. Buffon \_(Natural

History\_, 1749 \_seq\_) endeavors to facilitate the mechanical explanation

of the phenomena of life by the assumption of living molecules, from

which visible organisms are built up. Robinet (\_On Nature\_, 1761 \_seq\_.),

availing himself of Spinozistic and Leibnitzian conceptions, goes still

further, in that he endows every particle of matter with sensation, looks

on the whole world as a succession of living beings with increasing

mentality, and subjects the interaction of the material and psychical sides

of the individual, as well as the relation of pleasure and pain in the

universe, to a law of harmonious compensation.

The \_System of Nature\_, 1770, which bore on its title page the name of Mirabaud, who had died 1760, proceeded from the company

of freethinkers

accustomed to meet in the hospitable house of Baron von Holbach (died

1789), a native of the Palatinate. Its real author was Holbach himself,

although his friends Diderot, Naigeon, Lagrange, the mathematician, and the

clever Grimm (died 1807) seem to have co-operated in the preparation

of certain sections. The cumbrous seriousness and the dry tone of this

systematic combination of the radical ideas which the century had produced,

were no doubt the chief causes of its unsympathetic reception by the

public. Similarly unsuccessful was the popular account of materialism with

which Holbach followed it, in 1772, and Helvetius's excerpts from the

System of Nature , 1774.

Holbach applies himself to the despiritualization of nature and the

destruction of religious prejudices with sincere faith in the sacred

mission of unbelief -- the happiness of humanity depends on atheism. "O

Nature, sovereign of all beings, and ye her daughters, Virtue, Reason, and

Truth, be forever our only divinities." What has made virtue so difficult

and so rare? Religion, which divides men instead of uniting them. What has

so long delayed the illumination of the reason, and the discovery of truth?

Religion with its mischievous errors, God, spirit, freedom, immortality.

Immortality exists only in the memory of later generations; man is the

creature of a day; nothing is permanent but the great whole of nature and

the eternal law of universal change. Can a clock broken into a thousand

pieces continue to mark the hours? The senseless doctrine of freedom was

invented only to solve the senseless problem of the justification of God in

view of the existence of evil. Man is at every moment of his life a passive

instrument in the hands of necessity; the universe is an immeasurable

and uninterrupted chain of actions and reactions, an eternal round of

interchanging motions, ruled by laws, a change in which would at once alter

the nature of all things. The most fatal error is the idea of human and

divine spirits, which has been advanced by philosophers and adopted with

applause by fools. The opinion that man is divided into two substances is

based on the fact that, of the changes in our body, we directly perceive

only the external molar movements, while, on the other hand, the inner

motions of the invisible molecules are known only by their effects. These

latter have been ascribed to the mind, which, moreover, we have adorned

with properties whose emptiness is manifested by the fact that they are all

mere negations of that which we know. Experience reveals to us only the

extended, the corporeal, the divisible--but the mind is to be the opposite

of all three, yet at the same time to possess the power (how, no man can

tell) of acting on that which is material and of being acted upon by it.

In thus dividing himself into body and soul, man has in reality only

distinguished between his brain and himself. Man is a purely physical

being. All so-called spiritual phenomena are functions of the brain,

special cases of the operation of the universal forces of nature. Thought

and volition are sensation, sensation is motion. The moving forces in the

moral world are the same as those in the physical world;

in the latter they

are called attraction and repulsion, in the former, love and hate;

that which the moralist terms self-love is the same instinct of

self-preservation which is familiar in physics as the force of inertia.

As man has doubled himself, so also he has doubled nature. Evil gave the

first impulse to the formation of the idea of God, pain and ignorance have

been the parents of superstition; our sufferings were ascribed to unknown

powers, of which we were in fear, but which, at the same time, we hoped to

propitiate by prayer and sacrifice. The wise turned with their worship and

reverence toward a more worthy object, to the great All; and, in fact, if

we seek to give the word God a tenable meaning, it signifies active nature.

The error lay in the dualistic view, in the distinction between nature and

itself, \_i.e.\_ its activity, and in the belief that the explanation of

motion required a separate immaterial Mover. This assumption is, in the

first place, false, for since the All is the complex of all that exists

there can be nothing outside it; motion follows from the existence of the

universe as necessarily as its other properties; the world does not receive

it from without, but imparts it to itself by its own power. In the second

place the assumption is useless; it explains nothing, but confuses the

problems of natural science to the point of insolubility. In the third

place it is self-contradictory, for after theology has removed the Deity

as far away from man as possible, by means of the negative metaphysical

predicates, it finds itself necessitated to bring the

two together again through the moral attributes -- which are neither compatible with one another nor with the meta-physical--and crowns the absurdity by the assurance that we can please God by believing that which is incomprehensible. Finally, the assumption is dangerous; it draws men away from the present, disturbs their peace and enjoyment, stirs up hatred, and thus makes happiness and morality impossible. If, then, utility is the criterion of truth, theism--even in the mild form of deism--is proven erroneous by its disastrous consequences. All error is bane.

Matter and motion are alike eternal. Nature is an active, self-moving, living whole, an endless chain of causes and effects. All is in unceasing motion, all is cause (nothing is dead, nothing rests), all is effect (there is no spontaneous motion, none directed to an end). Order and disorder are not in nature, but only in our understanding; they are abstract ideas to denote that which is conformable to our nature and that which is contrary to it. The end of the All is itself alone, is life, activity; the universal goal of particular beings, like that of the universe, is the conservation of being.

Anthropology is for Holbach essentially reduced to two problems, the deduction of thought from motion, and of morality from the physical tendency to self-preservation. The forces of the soul are no other than those of the body. All mental faculties develop from sensation; sensations are motions in the brain which reveal to us motions

without the brain. All

the passions may be reduced to love and hate, desire and aversion, and

depend upon temperament, on the individual mixture of the fluid parts.

Virtue is the equilibrium of the fluids. All human actions proceed from

interest. Good and bad men are distinguished only by their organizations,

and by the ideas they form concerning happiness. With the same necessity

as that of the act itself, follow the love or contempt of fellow-men,

the pleasure of self-esteem and the pain of repentance (regret for evil

consequences, hence no evidence of freedom). Neither responsibility nor

punishment is done away with by this necessity--have we not the right to

protect ourselves against the stream which damages our fields, by building

dikes and altering its course? The end of endeavor is permanent happiness,

and this can be attained through virtue alone. The passions which are

useful to society compel the affection and approval of our fellows. In

order to interest others in our welfare we must interest ourselves in

theirs--nothing is more indispensable to man than man. The clever man acts

morally, interest binds us to the good; love for others means love for the

means to our own happiness. Virtue is the art of making ourselves happy

through the happiness of others. Nature itself chastises immorality, since

she makes the intemperate unhappy. Religion has hindered the recognition of

these rules, has misunderstood the diseases of the soul, and applied false

and ineffective remedies; the renunciation which she requires is opposed to

human nature. The true moralist recognizes in medicine the key to the human

heart; he will cure the mind through the body, control the passions and

hold them in check by other passions instead of by sermons, and will teach

men that the surest road to personal ends is to labor for the public good.

Illumination is the way to virtue and to happiness.

Volney (Chasseboeuf, died 1820; \_Catechism of the French Citizen , 1793,

later under the title \_Natural Law or Physical Principles of Morals deduced

front the Organization of Man and of the Universe\_;
further, The Ruins;

Complete Works\_, 1821) belongs among the moralists of self-love, although,

besides the egoistic interests, he takes account of the natural sympathetic

impulses also. This is still more the case with Condorcet ( Sketch of

an Historical View of the Progress of the Human Mind\_, 1794), who was

influenced alike by Condillac and by Turgot, and who defends a tendency

toward universal perfection both in the individual and in the race. Besides

the selfish affections, which are directed as much to the injury as to the

support of others, there lies in the organization of man a force which

steadily tends toward the good, in the form of underived feelings of

sympathy and benevolence, from which moral self-judgment is developed by

the aid of reflection. The aim of true ethics and social art is not to make

the "great" virtues universal, but to make them needless; the nearer the

nations approximate to mental and moral perfection, the less they stand in

need of these--happy the people in which good deeds are so customary that

scarcely an opportunity is left for heroism. The chief instrument for the

moral cultivation of the people is the development of

the reason, the

conscience, and the benevolent affections. Habituation to deeds of kindness

is a source of pure and inexhaustible happiness.

Sympathy with the good of

others must be so cultivated that the sacrifice of personal enjoyment will

be a sweeter joy than the pleasure itself. Let the child early learn to

enjoy the delight of loving and of being loved. We must, finally, strive

toward the gradual diminution of the inequalities of capacity, of property,

and between ruler and ruled, for to abolish them is impossible.

Of the remaining philosophers of the revolutionary period mention may be

made of the physician Cabanis \_(Relations of the Physical and the Moral in

Man, 1799)\_, and Destutt de Tracy \_(Elements of Ideology, 1801 seq.) . The

former is a materialist in psychology (the nerves are the man, ideas are

secretions of the brain), considers consciousness a property of organic

matter (the soul is not a being, but a faculty), and makes moral sympathy

develop out of the animal instincts of preservation and nourishment.

De Tracy, also, derives all psychical activity from organization and

sensation. His doctrine of the will, though but briefly sketched, is

interesting. The desires have a passive and an active side (corresponding

to the twofold action of the nerves, on themselves and on the muscles); on

the one hand, they are feelings of pleasure or pain, and on the other, they

lead us to action--will is need, and, at the same time, the source of

the means for satisfying this need. Both these feelings and the external

movements are probably based upon unconscious organic

motions. The will is

rightly identified with the personality, it is the ego itself, the totality

of the physico-psychical life of man attaining to self-consciousness. The

inner or organic life consists in the self-preserving functions of the

individual, the outer or animal life, in the functions of relation (of

sense, of motion, of speech, of reproduction); individual interests are

rooted in the former, sympathy in the latter. The primal good is freedom,

or the power to do what we will; the highest thing in life is love. In

order to be happy we must avoid punishment, blame, and pangs of conscience.

## %4. Rousseau's Conflict with the Illumination.%

The Genevese, Jean Jacques Rousseau[1] (1712-78), stands in a similar

relation of opposition to the French Illumination as the Scottish School to

the English, and Herder and Jacobi to the German. He points us away from

the cold sophistical inferences of the understanding to the immediate

conviction of feeling; from the imaginations of science to the unerring

voice of the heart and the conscience; from the artificial conditions of

culture to healthy nature. The vaunted Illumination is not the lever of

progress, but the source of all degeneration; morality does not rest on the

shrewd calculation of self-interest, but on original social and sympathetic

instincts (love for the good is just as natural to the human heart as

self-love; enthusiasm for virtue has nothing to do with our interest; what

would it mean to give up one's life for the sake of advantage?); the truths

of religion are not objects of thought, but of pious feeling.

[Footnote 1: Cf. Brockerhoff, Leipsic, 1863-74; L. Moreau, Paris, 1870.]

Rousseau commenced his career as an author with the Discourse on the

Sciences and the Arts\_, 1750 (the discussion of a prize question, crowned

by the Academy of Dijon), which he describes as entirely pernicious, and

the \_Discourse on the Origin and the Bases of the Inequality among Men\_,

1753. By nature man is innocent and good, becoming evil only in society.

Reflection, civilization, and egoism are unnatural. In the happy state of

nature pity and innocent self-love (\_amour de soi\_)
ruled, and the

latter was first corrupted by the reason into the artificial feeling of

selfishness (\_amour propre\_) in the course of social
development--thinking

man is a degenerate animal. Property has divided men into rich and poor;

the magistracy, into strong and weak; arbitrary power, into masters and

slaves. Wealth generated luxury with its artificial delights of science and

the theater, which make us more unhappy and evil than we otherwise are;

science, the child of vice, becomes in turn the mother of new vices. All

nature, all that is characteristic, all that is good, has disappeared with

advancing culture; the only relief from the universal degeneracy is to be

hoped for from a return to nature on the part of the individual and society

alike--from education and a state conformed to nature. The novel Emile is

devoted to the pedagogical, and the \_Social Contract, or the Principles of

Political Law\_, to the political problem. Both appeared

in 1762, followed two years later by the \_Letters from the Mountain\_, a defense against the attacks of the clergy. In these later writings Rousseau's naturalistic

Social order is a sacred right, which forms the basis of all others. It

does not proceed, however, from nature--no man has natural power over his

hatred of reason appears essentially softened.

fellows, and might confers no right--consequently it rests on a contract.

Not, however, on a contract between ruler and people. The act by which the

people chooses a king is preceded by the act in virtue of which it is a

people. In the social contract each devotes himself with his powers and his

goods to the community, in order to gain the protection of the latter.

With this act the spiritual body politic comes into being, and attains its

unity, its ego, its will. The sum of the members is called the people; each

member, as a participant in the sovereignty, citizen, and, as bound to

obedience to the law, subject. The individual loses his natural freedom,

receiving in exchange the liberty of a citizen, which is limited by the

general will, and, in addition, property rights in all that he possesses,

equality before the law, and moral freedom, which first really makes him

master of himself. The impulse of mere desire is slavery, obedience to

self-imposed law, freedom. The sovereign is the people, law the general

popular will directed to the common good, the supreme goods, "freedom and

equality," the chief objects of legislation. The lawgiving power is the

moral will of the body politic, the government (magistracy, prince) its

executive physical power; the former is its heart, the latter its brain.

Rousseau calls the government the middle term between the head of the state

and the individual, or between the citizen as lawgiver and as subject--the

sovereign (the people) commands, the government executes, the subject

obeys. The act by which the people submits itself to its head is not a

contract, but merely a mandate; whenever it chooses it can limit, alter, or

entirely recall the delegated power. In order to security against illegal

encroachments on the part of the government, Rousseau recommends regular

assemblies of the people, in which, under suspension of governmental

authority, the confirmation, abrogation, or alteration of the constitution

shall be determined upon. Even the establishment of the articles of social

belief falls to the sovereign people. The essential difference between

Rousseau's theory of the state and that of Locke and Montesquieu consists

in his rejection of the division of powers and of representation by

delegates, hence in its unlimited democratic character. A generation after

it was given to the world, the French Revolution made the attempt to

translate it into practice. "The masses carried out what Rousseau himself

had thought, it is true, but never willed" (Windelband).

Rousseau's theory of education is closely allied to Locke's (cf. above),

whose leading idea--the development of individuality--was entirely in

harmony with the subjectivism of the philosopher of feeling. Posterity has

not found it a difficult task to free the sound kernel therein from the

husks of exaggeration and idiosyncrasy which surrounded

it. Among the

latter belong the preference of bodily over intellectual development, and

the unlimited faith in the goodness of human nature.

Exercise the body, the

organs, the senses of the pupil, and keep his soul unemployed as long as

possible; for the first, take care only that his mind be kept free from

error and his heart from vice. In order to secure complete freedom from

disturbance in this development, it is advisable to isolate the child from

society, nay, even from the family, and to bring him up in retirement under

the quidance of a private tutor.

As the Swiss republican spoke in Rousseau's politics, so his religious

theories[1] betray the Genevan Calvinist. "The Savoyard Vicar's Profession

of Faith" (in \_Emile\_) proclaims deism as a religion of feeling. The

rational proofs brought forward for the existence of God--from the motion

of matter in itself at rest, and from the finality of the world--are only

designed, as he declares by letter, to confute the materialists, and derive

their impregnability entirely from the inner evidence of feeling, which

amid the vacillation of the reason \_pro\_ and \_con\_ gives the final decision.

[Footnote 1: Cf. Ch. Borgeaud, \_Rousseaus Religionsphilosophie\_, Geneva and Leipsic, 1883.]

If we limit our inquiry to that which is alone of importance for us, and

rely on the evidence of feeling, it cannot be doubted that I myself exist

and feel; that there exists an external world which affects me; that

thought, comparison or judgment concerning relations is different from

sensation or the perception of objects--for the latter is a passive,

but the former an active process; that I myself produce the activity of

attention or consideration; that, consequently, I am not merely a sensitive

or passive, but also an active or intelligent being. The freedom of my

thought and action guarantees to me the immateriality of my soul, and is

that which distinguishes me from the brute. The life of the soul after

the decay of the body is assured to me by the fact that in this world the

wicked triumphs, while the good are oppressed. The favored position which

man occupies in the scale of beings--he is able to look over the universe

and to reverence its author, to recognize order and beauty, to love the

good and to do it; and shall he, then, compare himself to the brute?--fills

me with emotion and gratitude to the benevolent Creator, who existed before

all things, and who will exist when they all shall have vanished away,

to whom all truths are one single idea, all places a point, all times a

moment. The \_how\_ of freedom, of eternity, of creation, of the action of

my will upon matter, etc., is, indeed, incomprehensible
to me, but that

these are so, my feeling makes me certain. The worthiest employment of

my reason is to annihilate itself before God. "The more I strive to

contemplate his infinite essence the less do I conceive it. But it is, and

that suffices me. The less I conceive it, the more I adore."

In the depths of my heart I find the rules for my conduct engraved by

nature in ineffaceable characters. Everything is good that I feel to be so.

The conscience is the most enlightened of all philosophers, and as safe

a guide for the soul as instinct for the body. The infallibility of its

judgment is evidenced by the agreement of different peoples; amid the

surprising differences of manners you will everywhere find the same ideas

of justice, the same notions of good and evil. Show me a land where it is

a crime to keep one's word, to be merciful, benevolent, magnanimous, where

the upright man is despised and the faithless honored! Conscience enjoins

the limitation of our desires to the degree to which we are capable of

satisfying them, but not their complete suppression--all passions are good

when we control them, all evil when they control us.

In the second part of the "Profession du Foi du Vicaire Savoyard" Rousseau

turns from his attacks on sensationalism, materialism, atheism, and the

morality of interest, to the criticism of revelation. Why, in addition to

natural religion, with its three fundamental doctrines, God, freedom, and

immortality, should other special doctrines be necessary, which rather

confuse than clear up our ideas of the Great Being, which exact from us

the acceptance of absurdities, and make men proud, intolerant, and

cruel--whereas God requires from us no other service than that of the

heart? Every religion is good in which men serve God in a befitting manner.

If God had prescribed one single religion for us, he would have provided

it with infallible marks of its unique authenticity. The authority of the

fathers and the priesthood is not decisive, for every

religion claims to be

revealed and alone true; the Mohammedan has the same right as the Christian

to adhere to the religion of his fathers. Since all revelation comes down

to us by human tradition, reason alone can be the judge of its divinity.

The careful examination of the documents, which are written in ancient

languages, would require an amount of learning which could not possibly be

a condition of salvation and acceptance with God.

Miracles and prophecy are

not conclusive, for how are we to distinguish the true among them from

the false? If we turn from the external to the internal criteria of the

doctrines themselves, even here no decision can be reached between the

reasons \_pro\_ and \_con\_ (the author puts the former into the mouth of a

believer, and the latter into that of a rationalist); even if the former

outweighed the latter, the difficulty would still remain of reconciling it

with God's goodness and justice that the gospel has not reached so many of

mankind, and of explaining how those to whom the divinity of Christ is

now proclaimed can convince themselves of it, while his contemporaries

misjudged and crucified him. In my opinion, I am incapable of fathoming the

truth of the Christian religion and its value to those who confess it. The

investigation of the reason ends in "reverential doubt": I neither accept

revelation nor reject it, but I reject the obligation to accept it. My

heart, however, judges otherwise than the reflection of my intellect; for

this the sacred majesty and exalted simplicity of the Scriptures are a most

cogent proof that they are more than human, and that He whose history they

contain is more than man. The touching grace and profound wisdom of his

words, the gentleness of his conduct, the loftiness of his maxims, his

mastery over his passions, abundantly prove that he was neither an

enthusiast nor an ambitious sectary. Socrates lived and died like a

philosopher, Jesus like a God. The virtues of justice, patriotism, and

moderation taught by Socrates, had been exercised by the great men of

Greece before he inculcated them. But whence could Jesus derive in his time

and country that lofty morality which he alone taught and exemplified?

Things of this sort are not invented. The inventor of such deeds would

be more wonderful than the doer of them. Thus again, in the question of

revealed religion, the voice of the heart triumphs over the doubts of the

reason, as, in the question of natural religion, it had done over the

objections of opponents. It is true, however, that this enthusiasm is

paid not to the current Christianity of the priests, but to I the real

Christianity of the gospel.

Rousseau was the conscience of France, which rebelled against the negations

and the bald emptiness of the materialistic and atheistic doctrines. By

vindicating with fervid eloquence the participation of the whole man in

the highest questions, in opposition to the one-sided illumination of the

understanding, he became a pre-Kantian defender of the faith of practical

reason. His emphatic summons aroused a loud and lasting echo, especially in

Germany, in the hearts of Goethe, Kant, and Fichte.

#### CHAPTER VII.

#### LEIBNITZ.

In the contemporaries Spinoza and Locke, the two schools of modern

philosophy, the Continental, starting from Descartes, and the English,

which followed Bacon, had reached the extreme of divergence and opposition,

Spinoza was a rationalistic pantheist, Locke, an empirical individualist.

With Leibnitz a twofold approximation begins. As a rationalist he sides

with Spinoza against Locke, as an individualist with Locke against Spinoza.

But he not only separated rationalism from pantheism, but also qualified

it by the recognition (which his historical tendencies had of themselves

suggested to him) of a relative justification for empiricism, since he

distinguished the factual truths of experience from the necessary truths of

reason, gave to the former a noëtical principle of their own, the principle

of sufficient reason, and made sensation an indispensable step to thought.

To the tendencies thus manifested toward a just estimation and peaceful

reconciliation of opposing standpoints, Leibnitz remained true in all the

fields to which he devoted his activity. Thus, in the sphere of religion,

he took an active part in the negotiations looking toward the reunion of

the Protestant and Catholic Churches, as well as in those concerning the

union of the Lutheran and the Reformed. Himself a stimulating man, he yet

needed stimulation from without. He was an astonishingly wide reader, and

declared that he had never found a book that did not

contain something

of value. With a ready adaptability to the ideas of others he combined a

remarkable power of transformative appropriation; he read into books more

than stood written in them. The versatility of his genius was unlimited:

jurist, historian, diplomat, mathematician, physical scientist, and

philosopher, and in addition almost a theologian and a philologist -- he is

not only at home in all these departments, because versed in them, but

everywhere contributes to their advancement by original ideas and plans. In

such a combination of productive genius and wealth of knowledge Aristotle

and Leibnitz are unapproached.

Gottfried Wilhelm Leibnitz was born in 1646 at Leipsic, where his father

(Friederich Leibnitz, died 1652) was professor of moral philosophy; in his

fifteenth year he entered the university of his native city, with law as

his principal subject. Besides law, he devoted himself with quite as much

of ardor to philosophy under Jacob Thomasius (died 1684, the father of

Christian Thomasius), and to mathematics under E. Weigel in Jena. In 1663

(with a dissertation entitled \_De Principio Individui\_)
he became Bachelor,

in 1664 Master of Philosophy, and in 1666, at Altdorf, Doctor of Laws, and

then declined the professorship extraordinary offered him in the latter

place. Having made the acquaintance of the former minister of the Elector

of Mayence, Freiherr von Boineburg, in Nuremberg, he went, after a short

stay at Frankfort-on-the-Main, to the court of the Elector at Mayence, at

whose request he devoted himself to the reform of legal procedure, besides

writing, while there, on the most diverse subjects. In 1672 he went to

Paris, where he remained during four years with the exception of a short

stay in London. The special purpose of the journey to Paris--to persuade

Louis XIV to undertake a campaign in Egypt, in order to divert him from his

designs upon Germany--was not successful; but Leibnitz was captivated

by the society of the Parisian scholars, among them the mathematician,

Huygens. From the end of 1676 until his death in 1716 Leibnitz lived

in Hanover, whither he had been called by Johann Friedrich, as court

councillor and librarian. The successor of this prince, Ernst August, who,

with his wife Sophie, and his daughter Sophie Charlotte, showed great

kindness to the philosopher, wished him to write a history of the princely

house of Brunswick; and a journey which he made in order to study for this

purpose was extended as far as Vienna and Rome. Upon his return he took

charge of the Wolfenbüttel library in addition to his other engagements.

The marriage of the Princess Sophie Charlotte with Frederick of

Brandenburg, the first king of Prussia, brought Leibnitz into close

relations with Berlin. At his suggestion the Academy (Society) of Sciences

was founded there in 1700, and he himself became its first president. In

Charlottenburg he worked on his principal work, the \_New Essays concerning

the Human Understanding\_, which was aimed at Locke, but the publication of

which was deferred on account of the death of the latter in the interim

(1704), and did not take place until 1765, in Raspe's collective edition.

The death of the Prussian queen in 1705 interrupted for several years the

\_Theodicy\_, which had been undertaken at her request, and which did not

appear until 1710. In Vienna, where he resided in 1713-14, Leibnitz

composed a short statement of his system for Prince Eugen; this, according

to Gerhardt, was not the sketch in ninety paragraphs, familiar under the

title \_Monadology\_, which was first published in the original by J.E.

Erdmann in his excellent \_Complete Edition of the Philosophical Works

of Leibnitz\_, 1840, but the \_Principles of Nature and of Grace , which

appeared two years after the author's death in  $\_L$ 'Europe Savante .

While Ernst August, as well as the German emperor and Peter the Great,

distinguished the philosopher, who was not indifferent to such honors, by

the bestowal of titles and preferments, his relations with the Hanoverian

court, which until then had been so cordial, grew cold after the Elector

Georg Ludwig ascended the English throne as George I. The letters

which Leibnitz interchanged with his daughter-in-law, gave rise to the

correspondence, continued to his death, with Clarke, who defended the

theology of Newton against him. The contest for priority between Leibnitz

and Newton concerning the invention of the differential calculus was later

settled by the decision that Newton invented his method of fluxions first,

but that Leibnitz published his differential calculus earlier and in a more

perfect form. The variety of pursuits in which Leibnitz was engaged was

unfavorable to the development and influence of his philosophy, in that it

hindered him from working out his original ideas in

systematic form, and left him leisure only for the composition of shorter essays. Besides the two larger works mentioned above, the New Essays and the Theodicy, we have of philosophical works by Leibnitz only a series of private letters, and articles for the scientific journals (the Journal des Savants in Paris, and the Acta Eruditorum in Leipsic, etc.), among which may be mentioned as specially important the New System of Nature, and of the Interaction of Substances as well as of the Union which exists between the Soul and the Body , 1695, which was followed during the next year by three explanations of it, and the paper De Ipsa Natura, 1698. Previous to Erdmann (1840) the following had deserved credit for their editions of Leibnitz: Feller, Kortholt, Gruber, Raspe, Dutens, Feder, Guhrauer (the German works), and since Erdmann, Pertz, Foucher de Careil, Onno Klopp, and especially J.C. Gerhardt. The last named published the mathematical works in seven volumes in 1849-63, and recently, Berlin, 1875-90, the philosophical treatises, also in seven volumes.[1] In our account of the philosophy of Leibnitz we begin with the fundamental metaphysical concepts, pass next to his theory of living beings and of man (theory of knowledge and ethics), and close with his inquiries into the philosophy of religion. [Footnote 1: We have a life of Leibnitz by G.E.

[Footnote 1: We have a life of Leibnitz by G.E. Guhrauer, jubilee edition, Breslau, 1846 [Mackie's \_Life\_, Boston, 1845 is based on Guhrauer]. Among recent works on Leibnitz, we note the little work by Merz, Blackwood's Philosophical Classics, 1884, and Ludwig Stein's

Leibniz und Spinoza , Berlin, 1890, in which with the aid of previously unedited material the relations of Leibnitz to Spinoza (whom he visited at The Haque on his return journey from Paris) are discussed, and the attempt is made to trace the development of the theory of monads, down to 1697. The new exposition of the Leibnitzian monadology by Ed. Dillman, which has just appeared, we have not yet been able to examine [The English reader may be referred further to Dewey's Leibniz in Griggs's Philosophical Classics, 1888, and Duncan's Philosophical Works of Leibnitz (selections translated, with notes), New Haven, 1890, as well as to the work of Merz already mentioned.--TR.]]

%1. Metaphysics: the Monads, Representation, the Preestablished Harmony; the Laws of Thought and of the World.%

Leibnitz develops his new concept of substance, the monad,[1] in conjunction with, yet in opposition to, the Cartesian and the atomistic

conceptions. The Cartesians are right when they make the concept of

substance the cardinal point in metaphysics and explain it by the concept

of independence. But they are wrong in their further definition of this

second concept. If we take independence in the sense of unlimitedness and

aseity, we can speak, as the example of Spinoza shows, of only one, the

divine substance. If the Spinozistic result is to be avoided, we must

substitute independent action for independent existence, self-activity

for self-existence. Substance is not that which exists

through itself (otherwise there would be no finite substances), but that which acts through itself, or that which contains in itself the ground of its changing states. Substance is to be defined by active force,[2] by which we mean something different from and better than the bare possibility or capacity of the Scholastics. The potentia sive facultas , in order to issue into action, requires positive stimulation from without, while the vis activa (like an elastic body) sets itself in motion whenever no external hindrance opposes. Substance is a being capable of action ( la substance est un être capable d'action ). With the equation of activity and existence ( quod non agit, non existit ) the substantiality which Spinoza had taken away from individual things is restored to them: they are active, consequently, in spite of their limitedness, substantial beings ( quod agit, est substantia singularis ). Because of its inner activity every existing thing is a determinate individual, and different from every other being. Substance is an individual being endowed with force.

[Footnote 1: According to L. Stein's conjecture, Leibnitz took the expression Monad, which he employs after 1696, from the younger (Franc. Mercurius) van Helmont.]

[Footnote 2: Francis Glisson (1596-1677, professor of medicine in Cambridge and London) had as early as 1671, conceived substances as forces in his treatise \_De Natura Substantiae Energetica\_. That Glisson influenced Leibnitz, as maintained by H. Marion (Paris, 1880), has not been proven;

### cf. L. Stein, p. 184.]

The atomists are right when they postulate for the explanation of

phenomenal bodies simple, indivisible, eternal units, for every composite

consists of simple parts. But they are wrong when they regard these

invisible, minute corpuscles, which are intended to subserve this purpose

as indivisible: everything that is material, however small it be, is

divisible to infinity, nay, is in fact endlessly divided. If we are to find

indivisible units, we must pass over into the realm of the immaterial and

come to the conclusion that bodies are composed of immaterial constituents.

Physical points, the atoms, are physical, but not points; mathematical

points are indivisible, but not real; metaphysical or substantial

points, the incorporeal, soul-like units, alone combine in themselves

indivisibility and reality--the monads are the true atoms. Together with

indivisibility they possess immortality; as it is impossible for them to

arise and perish through the combination and separation of parts, they

cannot come into being or pass out of it in any natural way whatever, but

only by creation or annihilation. Their non-spatial or punctual character

implies the impossibility of all external influence, the monad develops its

states from its own inner nature, has need of no other thing, is sufficient

unto itself, and therefore deserves the Aristotelian name, entelechy.

Thus two lines of thought combine in the concept of the monad. Gratefully

recognizing the suggestions from both sides, Leibnitz called Cartesianism

the antechamber of the true philosophy, and atomism the preparation for

the theory of monads. From the first it followed that the substances were

self-acting forces; from the second, that they were immaterial units.

Through the combination of both determinations we gain information

concerning the kind of force or activity which constitutes the being of the

monad: the monads are representative forces. There is nothing truly real in

the world save the monads and their representations [ideas, perceptions].

In discussing the representation in which the being and activity of the

monads consist, we must not think directly of the conscious activity of

the human soul. Representation has in Leibnitz a wider meaning than that

usually associated with the word. The distinction, which has become of the

first importance for psychology, between mere representation and conscious

representation, or between perception and apperception, may be best

explained by the example of the sound of the waves. The roar which we

perceive in the vicinity of the sea-beach is composed of the numerous

sounds of the single waves. Each single sound is of itself too small to be

heard; nevertheless it must make an impression on us, if only a small one,

since otherwise their total--as a sum of mere nothings-could not be

heard. The sensation which the motion of the single wave causes is a weak,

confused, unconscious, infinitesimal perception
( petite, insensible

perception\_), which must be combined with many similar minute sensations

in order to become strong and distinct, or to rise above the threshold of

consciousness. The sound of the single wave is felt, but not distinguished,

is perceived, but not apperceived. These obscure states of unconscious

representation, which are present in the mind of man along with states of

clear consciousness, make up, in the lowest grade of existence, the whole

life of the monad. There are beings which never rise above the condition of deep sleep or stupor.

In conformity with this more inclusive meaning, perception is defined as

the representation of the external in the internal, of multiplicity in

unity \_(representatio multitudinis in unitate\_). The representing being,

without prejudice to its simplicity, bears in itself a multitude of

relations to external things. What now is the manifold, which is expressed,

perceived, or represented, in the unit, the monad? It is the whole world.

Every monad represents all others in itself, is a concentrated all, the

universe in miniature. Each individual contains an infinity in itself

\_(substantia infinitas actiones simul exercet\_) and a supreme intelligence,

for which every obscure idea would at once become distinct, would be able

to read in a single monad the whole universe and its history—all that is,

has been, or will be; for the past has left its traces behind it, and

the future will bring nothing not founded in the present: the monad is

freighted with the past and bears the future in its bosom. Every monad is

thus a mirror of the universe,[1] but a living mirror ( miror vivant de

l'univers\_), which generates the images of things by its
own activity

or develops them from inner germs, without experiencing

influences from

without. The monad has no windows through which anything could pass in or

out, but in its action is dependent only on God and on itself.

[Footnote 1: The objection has been made against Leibnitz, and not without

reason, that strictly speaking there is no content for the representation

of the monads, although he appears to offer them the richest of all

contents, the whole world. The "All" which he makes them represent is

itself nothing but a sum of beings, also representative. The objects of

representation are merely representing subjects; the monad A represents the

monads from B to Z, while these in turn do nothing more than represent one

another. The monad mirrors mirrors—where is the thing that is mirrored?

The essence of substance consists in being related to others, which

themselves are only points of relation; amid mere relativities we never

reach a real. That which prevented Leibnitz himself from recognizing this

empty formalism was, no doubt, the fact that for him the mere form of

representation was at once filled with a manifold experiential content,

with the whole wealth of spiritual life, and that the quantitative

differences in representation, which for him meant also degrees of feeling,

desire, action, and progress, imperceptibly took on the qualitative

vividness of individual characteristics. Moreover, it must not be

overlooked that the spiritual beings represent not merely the universe but

the Deity as well, hence a very rich object.]

All monads represent the same universe, but each one

represents it

differently, that is, from its particular point of view-represents that

which is near at hand distinctly, and that which is distant confusedly.

Since they all reflect the same content or object, their difference

consists only in the energy or degree of clearness in their

representations. So far then, as their action consists in representation,

distinct representation evidently coincides with complete, unhindered

activity, confused representation with arrested activity, or passivity.

The clearer the representations of a monad the more active it is. To have

clear and distinct perceptions only is the prerogative of God; to the

Omnipresent everything is alike near. He alone is pure activity; all

finite beings are passive as well, that is, so far as their perceptions are

not clear and distinct. Retaining the Aristotelian-Scholastic terminology,

Leibnitz calls the active principle form, the passive matter, and makes the

monad, since it is not, like God, \_purus actus\_ and pure form, consist of

form (entelechy, soul) and matter. This matter, as a constituent of the

monad, does not mean corporeality, but only the ground for the arrest of

its activity. The \_materia prima\_ (the principle of passivity in the monad)

is the ground, the \_materia secunda\_ (the phenomenon of corporeal mass) the

result of the indistinctness of the representations. For a group of monads

appears as a body when it is indistinctly perceived. Whoever deprives the

monad of activity falls into the error of Spinoza; whoever takes away

its passivity or matter falls into the opposite error, for he deifies

individual beings.

No monad represents the common universe and its individual parts just as

well as the others, but either better or worse. There are as many

different degrees of clearness and distinctness as there are monads.

Nevertheless certain classes may be distinguished. By distinguishing

between clear and obscure perceptions, and in the former class between

distinct and confused ones--a perception is clear when it is sufficiently

distinguished from others, distinct when its component parts are thus

distinguished--Leibnitz reaches three principal grades. Lowest stand the

simple or naked monads, which never rise above obscure and unconscious

perception and, so to speak, pass their lives in a swoon or sleep. If

perception rises into conscious feeling, accompanied by memory, then

the monad deserves the name of soul. And if the soul rises to

self-consciousness and to reason or the knowledge of universal truth, it

is called spirit. Each higher stage comprehends the lower, since even in

spirits many perceptions remain obscure and confused. Hence it was an error

when the Cartesians made thought or conscious activity-by which, it is

true, the spirit is differentiated from the lower beings--to such a degree

the essence of spirit that they believed it necessary to deny to it all

unconscious perceptions.

From perception arises appetition, not as independent activity, but as a modification of perception; it is nothing but the tendency to pass from one

perception to another (\_l'appetit est la tendance d'une perception à

une autre\_); impulse is perception in process of becoming. Where the

perceptions are conscious and rational appetition rises into will. All

monads are self-active or act spontaneously, but only the thinking ones are

free. Freedom is the spontaneity of spirits. Freedom does not consist in

undetermined choice, but in action without external compulsion according to

the laws of one's own being. The monad develops its representations out of

itself, from the germs which form its nature. The correspondence of

the different pictures of the world, however, is grounded in a divine

arrangement, through which the natures of the monads have from the

beginning been so adapted to one another that the changes in their states,

although they take place in each according to immanent laws and without

external influence, follow an exactly parallel course, and the result is

the same as though there were a constant mutual interaction. This general

idea of a \_pre-established harmony\_ finds special
application in the

problem of the interaction between body and soul. Body and soul are like

two clocks so excellently constructed that, without needing to be regulated

by each other, they show exactly the same time. Over the numberless lesser

miracles with which occasionalism burdened the Deity, the one great miracle

of the pre-established harmony has an undeniable advantage. As one great

miracle it is more worthy of the divine wisdom than the many lesser ones,

nay, it is really no miracle at all, since the harmony
does not interfere

with natural laws, but yields them. This idea may even

be freed from its

theological investiture and reduced to the purely metaphysical expression,

that the natures of the monads, by which the succession of their

representations is determined in conformity with law, consist in nothing

else than the sum of relations in which this individual thing stands to all

other parts of the world, wherein each member takes account of all others

and at the same time is considered by them, and thus exerts influence

as well as suffers it. In this way the external idea of an artificial

adaptation is avoided. The essence of each thing is simply the position

which it occupies in the organic whole of the universe; each member is

related to every other and shares actively and passively in the life of

all the rest. The history of the universe is a single great process in

numberless reflections.

The metaphysics of Leibnitz begins with the concept of representation

and ends with the harmony of the universe. The representations were

multiplicity (the endless plurality of the represented) in unity (the unity

of the representing monad); the harmony is unity (order, congruity of the

world-image) in multiplicity (the infinitely manifold degrees of clearness

in the representations). All monads represent the same universe; each one

mirrors it differently. The unity, as well as the difference, could not be

greater than it is; every possible degree of distinctness of representation

is present in each single monad, and yet there is a single harmonic accord

in which the unnumbered tones unite. Now order amid diversity, unity in

variety make up the concept of beauty and perfection. If, then, this world

shows, as it does, the greatest unity in the greatest multiplicity, so that

there is nothing wanting and nothing superfluous, it is the most perfect,

the best of all possible worlds. Even the lowest grades contribute to the

perfection of the whole; their disappearance would mean a hiatus; and if

the unclear and confused representations appear imperfect when considered

in themselves, yet they are not so in reference to the whole; for just on

this fact, that the monad is arrested in its representation or is passive,

\_i.e.\_, conforms itself to the others and subordinates itself to them, rest

the order and connection of the world. Thus the idea of harmony forms the

bridge between the Monadology and optimism.

As in regard to the harmony of the universe we found it possible to

distinguish between a half-mythical, narrative form of presentation and a

purely abstract conception, so we may make a similar distinction in the

doctrine of creation. This actual world has been chosen by God as the best

among many other conceivable worlds. Through the will of God the monads of

which the world consists attained their reality; as possibilities or

ideas they were present in the mind of God (as it were, prior to their

actualization), present, too, with all the distinctive properties and

perfections that they now exhibit in a state of realization, so that their

merely possible or conceivable being had the same content as their actual

being, and their essence is not altered or increased by their existence.

Now, since the impulse toward actualization dwells in

every possible

essence, and is the more justifiable the more perfect the essence, a

competition goes on before God, in which, first, those monod-possibilities

unite which are mutually compatible or compossible, and, then, among the

different conceivable combinations of monads or worlds that one is ordained

for entrance into existence which shows the greatest possible sum of

perfection. It was, therefore, not the perfection of the single monad, but

the perfection of the system of which it forms a necessary part, that was

decisive as to its admission into existence. The best world was known

through God's wisdom, chosen through his goodness, and realized through his

power.[1] The choice was by no means arbitrary, but wholly determined by

the law of fitness or of the best (\_principe du
meilleur\_); God's will must

realize that which his understanding recognizes as most perfect. It is at

once evident that in the competition of the possible worlds the victory of

the best was assured by the \_lex melioris\_, apart from the divine decision.

[Footnote 1: In regard to the dependence of the world on God, there is a

certain conflict noticeable in Leibnitz between the metaphysical interests

involved in the substantiality of individual beings, together with the

moral interests involved in guarding against fatalism, and the opposing

interests of religion. On the one side, creation is for him only an

actualization of finished, unchangeable possibilities, on the other, he

teaches with the mediaeval philosophers that this was not accomplished by a

single act of realization, that the world has need of

conservation, \_i.e.\_,
of continuous creation.]

This law is the special expression of a more general one, the principle

of sufficient reason, which Leibnitz added, as of equal authority, to the

Aristotelian laws of thought. Things or events are real (and assertions

true) when there is a sufficient reason for their existence, and for their

determinate existence. The \_principium rationis sufficientis governs our

empirical knowledge of contingent truths or truths of fact, while, on

the other hand, the pure rational knowledge of necessary or eternal

(mathematical and metaphysical) truths rests on the principium

contradictionis\_. The principle of contradiction asserts, that is, whatever

contains a contradiction is false or impossible; whatever contains no

contradiction is possible; that whose opposite contains a contradiction

is necessary. Or positively formulated as the principle of identity,

everything and every representative content is identical with itself.[2]

Upon this antithesis between the rational laws of contradiction and

sufficient reason--which, however, is such only for us men, while the

divine spirit, which cognizes all things \_a priori\_, is able to reduce even

the truths of fact to the eternal truths--Leibnitz bases his distinction

between two kinds of necessity. That is metaphysically necessary whose

opposite involves a contradiction; that is morally necessary or contingent

which, on account of its fitness, is preferred by God to its (equally

conceivable) opposite. To the latter class belongs, further, the physically

necessary: the necessity of the laws of nature is only a conditional

necessity (conditioned by the choice of the best); they are contingent

truths or truths of fact. The principle of sufficient reason holds for

efficient as well as for final causes, and between the two realms there is,

according to Leibnitz, the most complete correspondence. In the material

world every particular must be explained in a purely mechanical way, but

the totality of the laws of nature, the universal mechanism itself, cannot

in turn be mechanically explained, but only on the basis of finality, so

that the mechanical point of view is comprehended in, and subordinated

to, the teleological. Thus it becomes clear how Leibnitz in the \_ratio

sufficiens has final causes chiefly in mind.

[Footnote 2: Within the knowledge of reason, as well as in experiential

knowledge, a further distinction is made between primary truths (which

need no proof) and derived truths. The highest truths of reason are the

identical principles, which are self-evident; from these intuitive truths

all others are to be derived by demonstration--proof is analysis and, as

free from contradictions, demonstration. The primitive truths of experience

are the immediate facts of consciousness; whatever is inferred from them is

less certain than demonstrative knowledge. Nevertheless experience is not

to be estimated at a low value; it is through it alone that we can assure

ourselves of the reality of the objects of thought, while necessary truths

guarantee only that a predicate must be ascribed to a subject (e.g., a

circle), but make no deliverance as to whether this

# subject exists or not.]

To the broad and comprehensive tendency which is characteristic of

Leibnitz's thinking, philosophy owes a further series of general laws,

which all stand in the closest relation to one another and to his

monadological and harmonistic principles, viz., the law of continuity, the

law of analogy, the law of the universal dissimilarity of things or of the

identity of indiscernibles, and, finally, the law of the conservation of force.

The most fundamental of these laws is the \_lex continui . On the one hand,

it forbids every leap, on the other, all repetition in the series of beings

and the series of events. Member must follow member without a break and

without superfluous duplication; in the scale of creatures, as in the

course of events, absolute continuity is the rule. Just as in the monad one

state continually develops from another, the present one giving birth

to the future, as it has itself grown out of the past, just as nothing

persists, as nothing makes its entrance suddenly or without the way being

prepared for it, and as all extremes are bound together by connecting

links and gradual transitions, -- so the monad itself stands in a continuous

gradation of beings, each of which is related to and different from each.

Since the beings and events form a single uninterrupted series, there are

no distinctions of kind in the world, but only distinctions in degree. Rest

and motion are not opposites, for rest may be considered as infinitely

minute motion; the ellipse and the parabola are not

qualitatively

different, for the laws which hold for the one may be applied to the other.

Likeness is vanishing unlikeness, passivity arrested activity, evil a

lesser good, confused ideas simply less distinct ones, animals men with

infinitely little reason, plants animals with vanishing consciousness,

fluidity a lower degree of solidity, etc. In the whole world similarity

and correspondence rule, and it is everywhere the same as here-between

apparent opposites there is a distinction in degree merely, and hence,

analogy. In the macrocosm of the universe things go on as in the microcosm

of the monad; every later state of the world is prefigured in the earlier,

etc. If, on the one side, the law of analogy follows as a consequence from

the law of continuity, on the other, we have the
\_principium (identitatis)

indiscernibilium\_. As nature abhors gaps, so also it avoids the

superfluous. Every grade in the series must be represented, but none more

than once. There are no two things, no two events which are entirely alike.

If they were exactly alike they would not be two, but one. The distinction

between them is never merely numerical, nor merely local and temporal, but

always an intrinsic difference: each thing is distinguished from every

other by its peculiar nature. This law holds both for the truly real (the

monads) and for the phenomenal world--you will never find two leaves

exactly alike. By the law of the conservation of force, Leibnitz corrects

the Cartesian doctrine of the conservation of motion, and approaches the

point of view of the present day. According to Descartes it is the sum of

actual motions, which remains constant; according to Leibnitz, the sum of the active forces; while, according to the modern theory, it is the sum of the active and the latent or potential forces--a distinction, moreover, of which Leibnitz himself made use.

We now turn from the formal framework of general laws, to the actual, to that which, obeying these laws, constitutes the living content of the world.

#### %2. The Organic World.%

A living being is a machine composed of an infinite number of organs. The natural machines formed by God differ from the artificial machines made by the hand of man, in that, down to their smallest parts, they consist of machines. Organisms are complexes of monads, of which one, the soul, is supreme, while the rest, which serve it, form its body. The dominant monad is distinguished from those which surround it as its body by the greater distinctness of its ideas. The supremacy of the soulmonad consists in this one superior quality, that it is more active and more perfect, and clearly reflects that which the body-monads represent but obscurely. A direct interaction between soul and body does not take place; there is only a complete correspondence, instituted by God. He foresaw that the soul at

warmth, or would wish an arm-motion executed, and has so ordered the development of the body-monads

that, at the same instant, they appear to cause this sensation and to

such and such a moment would have the sensation of

obey this impulse to move. Now, since God in this foreknowledge and

accommodation naturally paid more regard to the perfect beings, to the more

active and more distinctly perceiving monads than to the less perfect ones,

and subordinated the latter, as means and conditions, to the former

as ends, the soul, prior to creation, actually exercised an ideal

influence--through the mind of God--upon its body. Its activity is the

reason why in less perfect monads a definite change, a passion takes place,

since the action was attainable only in this way, "compossible" with this

alone.[1] The monads which constitute the body are the first and direct

object of the soul; it perceives them more distinctly than it perceives,

through them, the rest of the external world. In view of the close

connection of the elements of the organism thus postulated, Leibnitz, in

the discussions with Father Des Bosses concerning the compatibility of

the Monadology with the doctrine of the Church, especially with the real

presence of the body of Christ in the Supper, consented, in favor of

the dogma, to depart from the assumption that the simple alone could be

substantial and to admit the possibility of composite substances, and of a

"substantial bond" connecting the parts of living beings. It appears least

in contradiction with the other principles of the philosopher to assign the

rôle of this \_vinculum substantiate\_ to the soul or central monad itself.

[Footnote 1: Cf. Gustav Class, \_Die metaphysischen Voraussetzungen des Leibnizischen Determinismus , Tübingen, 1874.]

Everything in nature is organized; there are no soulless bodies, no dead

matter. The smallest particle of dust is peopled with a multitude of living

beings and the tiniest drop of water swarms with organisms: every portion

of matter may be compared to a pond filled with fish or a garden full of

plants. This denial of the inorganic does not release our philosopher from

the duty of explaining its apparent existence. If we thoughtfully consider

bodies, we perceive that there is nothing lifeless and non-representative.

But the phenomenon of extended mass arises for our confused sensuous

perception, which perceives the monads composing a body together and

regards them as a continuous unity. Body exists only as a confused idea

in the feeling subject; since, nevertheless, a reality without the mind,

namely, an immaterial monad-aggregate, corresponds to it, the phenomenon

of body is a well-founded one \_(phenomenon bene fundatum)\_. As matter is

merely something present in sensation or confused representation, so space

and time are also nothing real, neither substances nor properties, but only

ideal things--the former the order of coexistences, the latter the order of successions.

If there are no soulless bodies, there are also no bodiless souls; the soul

is always joined with an aggregate of subordinate monads, though not always

with the same ones. Single monads are constantly passing into its body,

or into its service, while others are passing out; it is involved in a

continuous process of bodily transformation. Usually the change goes on

slowly and with a constant replacement of the parts

thrown off. If it takes

place quickly men call it birth or death. Actual death there is as little

as there is an actual genesis; not the soul only, but every living thing

is imperishable. Death is decrease and involution, birth increase and

evolution. The dying creature loses only a portion of its bodily machine

and so returns to the slumberous or germinal condition of "involution",

in which it existed before birth, and from which it was aroused through

conception to development. Pre-existence as well as post-existence must

be conceded both to animals and to men. Leuwenhoek's discovery of the

spermatozoa furnished a welcome confirmation for this doctrine, that all

individuals have existed since the beginning of the world, at least as

preformed germs. The immortality of man, conformably to his superior

dignity, differs from the continued existence of all monads, in that after

his death he retains memory and the consciousness of his moral personality.

## %3. Man: Cognition and Volition.%

In reason man possesses reflection or self-consciousness as well as the

knowledge of God, of the universal, and of the eternal truths or a priori

knowledge, while the animal is limited in its perception to experience,

and in its reasoning to the connection of perceptions in accordance with

memory. Man differs from higher beings in that the majority of his

ideas are confused. Under confused ideas Leibnitz includes both

sense-perceptions--anyone who has distinct ideas alone, as God, has no

sense-perceptions--and the feelings which mediate between the former and

the perfectly distinct ideas of rational thought. The delight of music

depends, in his opinion, on an unconscious numbering and measuring of

the harmonic and rhythmic relations of tones, aesthetic enjoyment of

the beautiful in general, and even sensuous pleasure, on the confused

perception of a perfection, order, or harmony.

The application of the \_lex continui\_ to the inner life has a very wide

range. The principal results are: (1) the mind always thinks; (2) every

present idea postulates a previous one from which it has arisen; (3)

sensation and thought differ only in degree; (4) in the order of time, the

ideas of sense precede those of reason. We are never wholly without ideas,

only we are often not conscious of them. If thought ceased in deep sleep,

we could have no ideas on awakening, since every representation proceeds

from a preceding one, even though it be unconscious.

In the thoughtful \_New Essays concerning the Human Understanding Leibnitz

develops his theory of knowledge in the form of a polemical commentary

to Locke's chief work.[1] According to Descartes some ideas (the pure

concepts) are innate, according to Locke none, according to Leibnitz all.

Or: according to Descartes some ideas (sensuous perceptions) come from

without, according to Locke all do so, according to Leibnitz none.

Leibnitz agrees with Descartes against Locke in the position that the mind

originally possesses ideas; he agrees with Locke against Descartes, that

thought is later than sensation and the knowledge of

universals later

than that of particulars. The originality which Leibnitz attributes to

intellectual ideas is different from that which Descartes had ascribed and

Locke denied to them. They are original in that they do not come into the

soul and are not impressed upon it from without; they are not original in

that they can develop only from previously given sense-ideas; again, they

are original in that they can be developed from confused ideas only because

they are contained in them \_implicite\_ or as predispositions.

Thus Leibnitz is able to agree with both his predecessors up to a certain

point: with the one, that the pure concepts have their origin within the

mind; with the other, that they are not the earliest knowledge, but are

conditioned by sensations. This synthesis, however, was possible only

because Leibnitz looked on sensation differently from both the others. If

sensation is to be the mother of thought, and the latter at the same time

to preserve its character as original, \_i.e.\_, as something not obtained

from without, sensation must, first, include an unconscious thinking in

itself, and, secondly, must itself receive a title to originality and

spontaneity. As the Catholic dogma added the immaculate conception of the

mother to that of the Son, so Leibnitz transfers the (virginal) origin of

rational concepts, independent of external influence, to sensations. The

monad has no windows. It bears germinally in itself all that it is to

experience, and nothing is impressed on it from without. The intellect

should not be compared to a blank tablet, but to a block of marble in whose

veins the outlines of the statue are prefigured. Ideas can only arise from

ideas, never from external impressions or movements of corporeal parts.

Thus \_all\_ ideas are innate in the sense that they grow from inner germs;

we possess them from the beginning, not developed (explicite), but

potentially, that is, we have the capacity to produce them. The old

Scholastic principle that "there is nothing in the understanding which was

not previously in sense" is entirely correct, only one must add, except the

understanding itself, that is, the faculty of developing our knowledge

out of ourselves. Thought lies already dormant in perception. With the

mechanical position (sensuous representation precedes and conditions

rational thought) is joined the teleological position (sensuous

representations exist, in order to render the origin of thoughts possible),

and with this purposive determination, sensation attains a higher dignity:

it is more than has been seen in it before, for it includes in itself the

future concept of the understanding in an unconscious form, nay, it is

itself an imperfect thought, a thought in process of becoming. Sensation

and thought are not different in kind, and if the former is called a

passive state, still passivity is nothing other than diminished activity.

Both are spontaneous; thought is merely spontaneous in a higher degree.

[Footnote 1: A careful comparison of Locke's theory of knowledge with

that of Leibnitz is given by G. Hartenstein, \_Abhandlungen der k. sächs.

Gesellschaft der Wissenschaften\_, Leipsic, 1865, included in Hartenstein's

# Historisch-philosophische Abhandlungen , 1870.]

By making sensation and feeling the preliminary step to thought, Leibnitz

became the founder of that intellectualism which, in the system of Hegel,

extended itself far beyond the psychological into the cosmical field, and

endeavored to conceive not only all psychical phenomena but all reality

whatsoever as a development of the Idea toward itself. This conception,

which may be characterized as intellectualistic in its content, presents

itself on its formal side as a quantitative way of looking at the world,

which sacrifices all qualitative antitheses in order to arrange the

totality of being and becoming in a single series with no distinctions but

those of degree. If Leibnitz here appears as the representative of a view

of the world which found in Kant a powerful and victorious opponent, yet,

on the other hand, he prepared the way by his conception of innate ideas

for the Critique of Reason. By his theory of knowledge he forms the

transition link between Descartes and Kant, since he interprets necessary

truths not as dwelling in the mind complete and explicit from the start,

but as produced or raised into consciousness only on the occasion of

sensuous experience. It must be admitted, moreover, that this in reality

was only a restoration of Descartes's original position,
\_i.e.\_, a

deliverance of it from the misinterpretations and perversions which it

had suffered at the hands of adherents and opponents alike, but which

Descartes, it is true, had failed to render impossible from the start by

conclusive explanations. The author of the theory of

innate ideas certainly

did not mean what Locke foists upon him, that the child in the cradle

already possesses the ideas of God, of thought, and of extension in full

clearness. But whether Leibnitz improved or only restored Descartes, it was

in any case an important advance when experience and thought were brought

into more definite relation, and the productive force in rational concepts

was secured to the latter and the occasion of their production to the former.

The unconscious or minute ideas, which in noëtics had served to break the

force of Locke's objections against the innateness of the principles of

reason, are in ethics brought into the field against indeterminism. They

are involved whenever we believe ourselves to act without cause, from pure

choice, or contrary to the motives present. In this last case, a motive

which is very strong in itself is overcome by the united power of many in

themselves weaken The will is always determined, and that by an idea (of

ends), which generally is of a very complex nature, and in which the

stronger side decides the issue. An absolute equilibrium of motives is

impossible: the world cannot be divided into two
entirely similar parts

(this in opposition to "Buridan's ass"). A spirit capable of looking us

through and through would be able to calculate all our volitions and actions beforehand.

In spite of this admitted inevitableness of our resolutions and actions,

the predicate of freedom really belongs to them, and this on two grounds.

First, they are only physically or morally, not metaphysically, necessary;

as a matter of fact, it is true, they cannot happen otherwise, but their

opposite involves no logical contradiction and remains conceivable. To

express this thought the formula, often repeated since, that our

motives only impel, incite, or stimulate the will, but do not compel it

(\_inclinant, non necessitant\_), was chosen, but not very happily. Secondly,

the determination of the will is an inner necessitation, grounded in the

being's own nature, not an external compulsion. The agent determines

himself in accordance with his own nature, and for this each bears the

responsibility himself, for God, when he brought the monads out of

possibility into actuality, left their natures as they had existed before

the creation in the form of eternal ideas in His understanding. Though

Leibnitz thus draws a distinction between his deterministic doctrine and

the "fatalism" of Spinoza, he recognizes a second concept of freedom, which

completely corresponds to Spinoza's. A decision is the more free the more

distinct the ideas which determine it, and a man the more free the more he

withdraws his will from the influence of the passions, \_i.e.\_, confused

ideas, and subordinates it to that of reason. God alone is absolutely free,

because he has no ideas which are not distinct. The bridge between the

two conceptions of freedom is established by the principle that reason

constitutes the peculiar nature of man in a higher degree than the sum of

his ideas; for it is reason which distinguishes him from the lower beings.

According to the first meaning of freedom man is free,

according to the second, which coincides with activity, perfection, and morality, he should become free.

Morality is the result of the natural development of the individual. Every

being strives after perfection or increased activity, i.e., after more

distinct ideas. Parallel to this theoretical advance runs a practical

advance in a twofold form: the increasing distinctness of ideas, or

enlightenment, or wisdom, raises the impulse to transitory, sensuous

pleasure into an impulse to permanent delight in our spiritual perfection,

or toward happiness, while, further, it opens up an insight into the

connection of all beings and the harmony of the world, in virtue of which

the virtuous man will seek to promote the perfection and happiness of

others as well as his own, \_i.e.\_, will \_love\_ them, for to love is to find

pleasure in the happiness of others. To promote the good of all, again,

is the same as to contribute one's share to the world-harmony and to

co-operate in the fulfillment of God's purposes. Probity and piety are the

same. They form the highest of the three grades of natural right, which

Leibnitz distinguishes as \_jus strictum\_ (mere right, with the principle:

Injure no one), \_aequitas\_ (equity or charity, with the
maxim: To each

his due), and \_probitas sive pietas\_ (honorableness joined with religion,

according to the command: Lead an upright and morally pure life). They may

also be designated as commutative, distributive, and universal justice.

Belief in God and immortality is a condition of the last.

# %4. Theology and Theodicy.%

God is the ground and the end of the world. All beings strive toward him,

as all came out from him. In man the general striving toward the most

perfect Being rises into conscious love to God, which is conditioned by the

knowledge of God and produces virtuous action as its effect. Enlightenment

and virtue are the essential constituents of religion; all else, as cultus

and dogma, have only a derivative value. Religious ceremonies are an

imperfect expression of the practical element in piety, as the doctrines of

faith are a weak imitation of the theoretical. It is a direct contradiction

of the intention of the Divine Teacher when occult formulas and ceremonies,

which have no connection with virtue, are made the chief thing. The points

in which the creeds agree are more important than those by which they are

differentiated. Natural religion has found its most perfect expression in

Christianity, although paganism and Judaism had also grasped portions of

the truth. Salvation is not denied to the heathen, for moral purity is

sufficient to make one a partaker of the grace of God. The religion of the

Jews elevated monotheism, which, it is true, made its appearance among the

heathen in isolated philosophers, but was never the popular religion, into

a law; but it lacked the belief in immortality. Christianity made the

religion of the sage the religion of the people.

Whatever of positive doctrine revelation has added to natural religion

transcends the reason, it is true, but does not

contradict it. It contains

no principles contrary to reason (whose opposite can be proved), but, no

doubt, principles above reason, \_i.e.\_, such as the reason could not have

found without help from without, and which it cannot fully comprehend,

though it is able approximately to understand them and to defend them

against objections. Hence Leibnitz defended the Trinity, which he

interpreted as God's power, understanding, and will, the eternity of the

torments of hell (which brought him the commendation of Lessing), and other

dogmas. Miracles also belong among the things the how and why of which we

are not in a position to comprehend, but only the that and what. Since the

laws of nature are only physically or conditionally necessary, i.e. have

been enacted only because of their fitness for the purposes of God, they

may be suspended in special cases when a higher end requires it.

While the positive doctrines of faith cannot be proved-as, on the other

hand, they cannot be refuted--the principles of natural religion admit of

strict demonstration. The usual arguments for the existence of God are

useful, but need amendment. The ontological argument of Descartes, that

from the concept of a most perfect Being his existence follows, is

correct so soon as the idea of God is shown to be possible or free from

contradiction. The cosmological proof runs: Contingent beings point to a

necessary, self-existent Being, the eternal truths especially presuppose an

eternal intelligence in which they exist. If we ask why anything whatever,

or why just this world exists, this ultimate ground of

things cannot be

found within the world. Every contingent thing or event has its cause in

another. However far we follow out the series of conditions, we never reach

an ultimate, unconditioned cause. Consequently the sufficient reason for

the series must be situated without the world, and, as is evident from the

harmony of things, can only be an infinitely wise and good Being. Here the

teleological proof comes in: From the finality of the world we reason to

the existence of a Being, as the author of the world, who works in view

of ends and who wills and carries out that which is best, -- to the supreme

intelligence, goodness, and power of the Creator. A special inferential

value accrues to this position from the system of preestablished

harmony--it is manifest that the complete correspondence of the manifold

substances in the world, which are not connected with one another by any

direct interaction, can proceed only from a common cause endowed with

infinite intelligence and power.

The possibility of proving the existence of one omnipotent and

all-beneficent God, and the impossibility of refuting the positive

dogmas, save the harmony of faith and reason, which Bayle had denied.

The conclusion of the \_New Essays\_ and the opening of the \_Theodicy\_ are

devoted to this theme. The second part gives, also against Bayle, the

justification of God in view of the evil in the world. Si Deus est, unde

malum\_? Optimism has to reckon with the facts of experience, and to show

that this world, in spite of its undeniable imperfections, is still the

best world. God could certainly have brought into actuality a world in

which there would have been less imperfection than in ours, but it would at

the same time have contained fewer perfections. No world whatever can exist

entirely free from evil, entirely without limitation--whoever forbids God

to create imperfect beings forbids him to create a world at all. Certain

evils--in general terms, the evil of finitude--are entirely inseparable

from the concept of created beings; imperfection attaches to every created

thing as such. Other evils God has permitted because it was only through

them that certain higher goods, which ought not to be renounced, could be

brought to pass. Think of the lofty feelings, noble resolves, and great

deeds which war occasions, think of national enthusiasm, readiness for

sacrifice, and defiance of death--all these would be given over, if war

should be taken out of the world on account of the suffering which it also brings in its train.

If we turn from the general principles to their application in detail, we

find a separate proof for the inevitableness or salutary nature of each of

the three kinds of evil--the metaphysical evil of created existence, the

physical evil of suffering (and punishment), and the moral evil of sin.

Metaphysical evil is absolutely unavoidable, if a world is to exist at all;

created beings without imperfection, finiteness, limitation, are entirely

inconceivable--something besides gods must exist. The physical evil of

misery finds its justification in that it makes for good. First of all, the

amount of suffering is not so great as it appears to

discontented spirits

to be. Life is usually quite tolerable, and vouchsafes more joy and

pleasure than grief and hardship; in balancing the good and the evil we

must especially remember to reckon on the positive side the goods of

activity, of health, and all that which affords us, perchance, no

perceptible pleasure, but the removal of which would be felt as an evil

(\_Theodicy\_, ii. § 251). Most evils serve to secure us a much greater good,

or to ward off a still greater evil. Would a brave general, if given the

choice of leaving the battle unwounded, but also without the victory, or of

winning the victory at the cost of a wound, hesitate an instant to choose

the latter? Other troubles, again, must be regarded as punishment for sins

and as means of reformation; the man who is resigned to God's will may be

certain that the sufferings which come to him will turn out for his good.

Especially if we consider the world as a whole, it is evident that the

sum of evil vanishes before the sum of good. It is wrong to look upon the

happiness of man as the end of the world. Certainly God had the happiness

of rational beings in mind, but not this exclusively, for they form only

a part of the world, even if it be the highest part. God's purpose has

reference rather to the perfection of the whole system of the universe. Now

the harmony of the universe requires that all possible grades of reality

be represented, that there should be indistinct ideas, sense, and

corporeality, not merely a realm of spirits, and with these, conditions

of imperfection, feelings of pain, and theoretical and

moral errors are

inevitably given. The connection and the order of the world demands a

material element in the monad, but happiness without alloy can never be the

lot of a spirit joined to a body. Thirdly, in regard to moral evil also we

receive the assurance that the sum of the bad is much less than that of the

good. Then, moral evil is connected with metaphysical evil: created beings

cannot be absolutely perfect, hence, also, not morally perfect or sinless.

But, in return for this, there is no being that is absolutely imperfect,

none only and entirely evil. With this is joined the well-known principle

of the earlier thinkers, that evil is nothing actual, but merely

deprivation, absence of good, lack of clear reason and force of will. That

which is real in the evil action, the power to act, is perfect and good,

and, as force, comes from God--the negative or evil element in it comes

from the agent himself; just as in the case of two ships of the same size,

but unequally laden, which drift with the current, the speed comes from the

stream and the retardation from the load of the vessels themselves. God

is not responsible for sin, for he has only permitted it, not willed it

directly, and man was already evil before he was created. The fact that God

foresaw that man would sin does not constrain the latter to commit the

evil deed, but this follows from his own (eternal) being, which God left

unaltered when he granted him existence. The guilt and the responsibility

fall wholly on the sinner himself. The permission of evil is explained by

the predominantly good results which follow from it (not, as in physical

evil, for the sufferer himself, but for others)--from the crime of Sextus

Tarquinius sprang a great kingdom with great men (of. the beautiful myth in

connection with a dialogue of Laurentius Valla, Theodicy, iii. 413-416).

Finally, reference is made again to the contribution which evil makes to

the perfection of the whole. Evil has the same function in the world as the

discords in a piece of music, or the shadows in a painting--the beauty is

heightened by the contrast. The good needs a foil in order to come out

distinctly and to be felt in all its excellence.

In the Leibnitzian theodicy the least satisfactory part is the

justification of moral evil. We miss the view defended in such grand

outlines by Hegel, and so ingeniously by Fechner, that the good is not

the flower of a quiet, unmolested development, but the fruit of energetic

labor; that it has need of its opposite; that it not merely must approve

itself in the battle against evil without and within the acting subject,

but that it is only through this conflict that it is attainable at all.

Virtue implies force of will as well as purity, and force develops only

by resistance. Although he does not appreciate the full depth of the

significance of pain, Leibnitz's view of suffering deserves more approval

than his questionable application to the ethical sphere of the quantitative

view of the world, with its interpretation of evil as merely undeveloped

good. But, in any case, the compassionate contempt of the pessimism of the

day for the "shallow" Leibnitz is most unjustifiable.

### CHAPTER VIII.

## THE GERMAN ILLUMINATION.

## %1. The Contemporaries of Leibnitz.%

The period between Kepler and Leibnitz in Germany was very poor in

noteworthy philosophical phenomena. The physicist, Christoph Sturm[1] of

Altdorf (died 1703), was a follower of Descartes, Joachim Jungius[2] (died

1657) a follower of Bacon, though not denying with the latter the value of

the mathematical method in natural science. Hieronymus Hirnhaym, Abbot at

Prague (\_The Plague of the Human Race, or the Vanity of Human Learning ,

1676), declared the thirst for knowledge of his age a dangerous disease,

knowledge uncertain, since no reliance can be placed on sense-perception

and the principles of thought contradict the doctrines of faith, and

harmful, since it contributes nothing to salvation, but makes its

possessors proud and draws them away from piety. He maintained, further,

that divine authority is the only refuge for man, and moral life the true

science. Side by side with such skepticism Hirnhaym's contemporary, the

poet Angelus Silesius (Joh. Scheffler, died 1667), defended mysticism.

The teacher of natural law, Samuel Pufendorf[3] (1632-94, professor in

Heidelberg and Lund, died in Berlin), aimed to mediate between Grotius and

Hobbes. Natural law is demonstrable, its real ground is the will of God,

its noëtical ground (not revelation, but) reason and observation of the

(social) nature of man, and the fundamental law the

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promotion of universal
good. The individual must not violate the interests of
society in
satisfying his impulse to self-preservation, because his
own interests
require social existence, and, consequently, respect for
its conditions.
[Footnote 1: Chr. Sturm: Physica Conciliatrix , 1687;
Physica Electiva ,
vol. i. 1697, vol. ii. with preface by Chr. Wolff, 1722;
Compendium
Universalium seu Metaphysica Euclidea .]
[Footnote 2: J. Jung Logica Hamburgiensis , 1638; cf.
Guhrauer, 1859.]
[Footnote 3: Pufendorf: Elementa Juris Universalis,
1660: De Statu
Imperii Germanici , 1667, under the pseudonym
Monzambano; De Jure Natures
et Gentium_ 1672, and an abstract of this, _De Officio
Hominis et Civis,
1673.1
Pufendorf was followed by Christian Thomasius[1] (1655-
1728; professor of
law at the University of Halle from its foundation in
1694). He was
the first instructor who ventured to deliver lectures in
the German
language--in Leipsic from 1687--and at the same time was
the editor of the
first learned journal in German (_Teutsche Monate,
Geschichte der Weisheit
und Thorheit ). In Thomasius the characteristic features
of the German
Illumination first came out in full distinctness,
namely, the avoidance of
scholasticism in expression and argument, the direct
relation of knowledge
to life, sober rationality in thinking, heedless
eclecticism, and the
demand for religious tolerance. Philosophy must be
generally intelligible,
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and practically useful, knowledge of the world (not of God); its form, free

and tasteful ratiocination; its object, man and morals; its first duty,

culture, not learning; its highest aim, happiness; its organ and the

criterion of every truth, common sense. He alone gains true knowledge who

frees his understanding from prejudice and judges only after examining for

himself; the joy of mental peace is given to no one who does not free his

heart from foolish desires and vehement passions, and devote it to virtue,

to "rational love." The positive doctrines of Thomasius have less interest

than this general standpoint, which prefigured the succeeding period. He

divides practical philosophy into natural law which treats of the justum,

politics which treats of the \_decorum\_, and ethics which treats of the

\_honestum\_. Justice bids us, Do not to others what you would not that

others should do to you; decorum, Do to others as you would that they

should do to you; and morality, Do to yourself as you would that others

should do to themselves. The first two laws relate to external, the third

to internal, peace; legal duties may be enforced by compulsion, moral duties not.

[Footnote 1: Thomasius: \_Institutionum Jurisprudentiae Divinae Libri Tres\_,

1688; \_Fundamenta Juris Naturae et Gentium\_, 1705, both in Latin; in

German, appeared in 1691-96 the \_Introduction and Application of Rational and Moral Philosophy .]

If Thomasius was the leader of those popular philosophers who, unconcerned about systematic continuity, discussed every question

separately before

the tribunal of common sense, and found in their lack of allegiance to

any philosophical sect a sufficient guarantee of the unprejudicedness

and impartiality of their reflections, Count Walter von Tschirnhausen

(1651-1708; \_Medecina Mentis sive Artis Inveniendi Praecepta Generalia ,

1687), a friend of Spinoza and Leibnitz, became the prototype of another

group of the philosophers of the Illumination. This group favored

eclecticism of a more scientific kind, by starting from considerations

of method and seeking to overcome the antithesis between rationalism and

empiricism. While fully persuaded of the validity and necessity of the

mathematical method in philosophical investigations, as well as elsewhere,

Tschirnhausen still holds it indispensable that the deductions, on the one

hand, start from empirical facts, and, on the other, that they be confirmed

by experiments. Inner experience gives us four primal facts, of which the

chief is the certainty of self-consciousness. The second, that many things

affect us agreeably and many disagreeably, is the basis of morals; the

third, that some things are comprehensible to us and others not, the

basis of logic; the fourth, that through the senses we passively receive

impressions from without, the basis of the empirical sciences, in

particular, of physics. Consequently consciousness, will, understanding,

and sensuous representation \_(imaginatio)\_, together with corporeality,

are our fundamental concepts. Not perception
 (perceptio) , but conception

\_(conceptio) alone gives science; that which we can "conceive" is true;

the understanding as such cannot err, but undoubtedly the imagination can

lead us to confuse the merely perceived with that which is conceived. The

method of science is geometrical demonstration, which starts from

(genetic) definitions, and from their analysis obtains axioms, from their

combination, theorems. That which is thus proved \_a priori must, as

already remarked, be confirmed \_a posteriori\_. The highest of all sciences

is natural philosophy, since it considers not senseobjects only, not (like

mathematics) the objects of reason only, but the actual itself in its true

character. Hence it is the divine science, while the human sciences busy

themselves only with our ideas or the relations of things to us.

#### %2. Christian Wolff.%

Christian Wolff was born at Breslau in 1679, studied theology at Jena, and

in addition mathematics and philosophy, habilitated at Leipsic in 1703,

and obtained, through the instrumentality of Leibnitz, a professorship of

mathematics at Halle, in 1706. His lectures, which soon extended themselves

over all philosophical disciplines, met with great success. This

popularity, as well as the rationalistic tendency of his thinking, aroused

the disfavor of the pietists, Francke and Lange, who succeeded, in 1723, in

securing from King Frederick William I. his removal from his chair and his

expulsion from the kingdom. Finding a refuge in Marburg, he was called back

to Halle by Frederick the Great a short time after the latter's ascension

of the throne. Here he taught and wrote zealously until

his death in 1754.

In his lectures, as well as in half of his writings,[1] he followed the

example of Thomasius in using the German language, which he prepared in

a most praiseworthy manner for the expression of philosophical ideas and

furnished with a large part of the technical terms current to-day. Thus

the terms \_Verhältniss\_ (relation), \_Vorstellung\_ (representation, idea),

\_Bewusstsein\_ (consciousness), \_stetig (continuus)\_, come from Wolff, as

well as the distinction between \_Kraft\_ (power) and \_Vermögen\_ (faculty),

and between \_Grund\_ (ground) and \_Ursache\_ (cause),[2]
Another great

service consisted in the reduction of the philosophy of Leibnitz to a

systematic form, by which he secured a dissemination for it which otherwise

it would scarcely have obtained. But he did not possess sufficient

originality to contribute anything remarkable of his own, and it showed

little self-knowledge when he became indignant at the designation

Leibnitzio-Wolffian philosophy, which was first used by his pupil,

Bilfinger. The alterations which he made in the doctrines of Leibnitz are

far from being improvements, and the parts which he rejected are just the

most characteristic and thoughtful of all. Such at least is the opinion

of thinkers to-day, though this mutilation and leveling down of the most

daring of Leibnitz's hypotheses was perhaps entirely advantageous for

Wolff's impression on his contemporaries; what appeared questionable to him

would no doubt have repelled them also. Leibnitz's two leading ideas, the

theory of monads and the pre-established harmony, were most of all affected

by this process of toning down. Wolff weakens the former by attributing

a representative power only to actual souls, which are capable of

consciousness, although he holds that bodies are compounded of simple

beings and that the latter are endowed with (a not further defined) force.

He limits the application of the pre-established harmony to the relation of

body and soul, which to Leibnitz was only a case especially favorable for

the illustration of the hypothesis. By such trifling the real meaning of

both these ideas is sacrificed and their bloom rubbed off.--While depth

is lacking in Wolff's thinking, he is remarkable for his power of

systematization, his persevering diligence, and his logical earnestness,

so that the praise bestowed on him by Kant, that he was the author of the

spirit of thoroughness in Germany, was well deserved. He, too, finds

the end of philosophy in the enlightenment of the understanding, the

improvement of the heart, and, ultimately, in the promotion of the

happiness of mankind. But while Thomasius demanded as a condition of such

universal intelligibility and usefulness that, discarding the scholastic

garb, philosophy should appear in the form of easy ratiocination, Wolff, on

the other hand, regards methodical procedure and certainty in results as

indispensable to its usefulness, and, in order to this certainty,

insists on distinctness of conception and cogency of proof. He demands

a \_philosophia et certa et utilis\_. If, finally, his
methodical

deliberateness, especially in his later works, leads him into wearisome

diffuseness, this pedantry is made good by his genuinely

German, honest

spirit, which manifests itself agreeably in his judgment on practical questions.

[Footnote 1: \_Reasonable Thoughts on the Powers of the Human

Understanding\_, 1712; \_Reasonable Thoughts on God, the World, and the

Soul of Man, also on All Things in General\_, 1719 (\_Notes\_ to this 1724);

\_Reasonable Thoughts on the Conduct of Man\_, 1720; Reasonable Thoughts on

the Social Life of Man\_, 1721; \_Reasonable Thoughts on the Operations of

Nature\_, 1723; \_Reasonable Thoughts on the Purposes of Natural Things\_,

1724; \_Reasonable Thoughts on the Parts of Man, Animals, and Plants , 1725,

all in German. Besides these there are extensive Latin treatises (1728-53)

on Logic, Ontology, Cosmology, Empirical and Rational Psychology, Natural

Theology, and all branches of Practical Philosophy. Detailed extracts may

be found in Erdmann's \_Versuch einer wissenschaftlichen Darstellung , ii.

2. The best account of the Wolffian philosophy has been given by Zeller (pp. 211-273).

[Footnote 2: Eucken, \_Geschichte der Terminologie\_^ pp. 133-134.]

Wolff reaches his division of the sciences by combining the two

psychological antitheses--the higher (rational) and lower (sensuous)

faculties of cognition and appetition. On the first is based the

distinction between the rational and the empirical or historical method of

treatment. The latter concerns itself with the actual, the former with the

possible and necessary, or the grounds of the actual;

the one observes and

describes, the other deduces. The antithesis of cognition and appetition

gives the basis for the division into theoretical and practical philosophy.

The former, called metaphysics, is divided into a general part, which

treats of being in general whether it be of a corporeal or a spiritual

nature, and three special parts, according to their principal subjects, the

world, the soul, and God, -- hence into ontology, cosmology, psychology, and

theology. The science which establishes rules for action and regards man as

an individual being, as a citizen, and as the head or member of a family,

is divided (after Aristotle) into ethics, politics, and economics, which

are preceded by practical philosophy in general, and by natural law. The

introduction to the two principal parts is furnished by formal logic.

Philosophy is the science of the possible, \_i.e.\_, of that which contains

no contradiction; it is science from concepts, its principle, the law of

identity, its form, demonstration, and its instrument, analysis, which in

the predicate explicates the determinations contained in the concept of the

subject. In order to confirm that which has been deduced from pure concepts

by the facts of experience, \_psychologia rationalis\_ is supplemented by

\_psychologia empirica\_, rational cosmology by empirical physics, and

speculative theology by an experimental doctrine of God (teleology). Wolff

gives no explanation how it comes about that the deliverances of the

reason agree so beautifully with the facts of experience; in his naïve,

unquestioning belief in the infallibility of the reason

he is a typical dogmatist.

A closer examination of the Wolffian philosophy seems unnecessary, since

its most essential portions have already been discussed under Leibnitz and

since it will be necessary to recur to certain points in our chapter on

Kant. Therefore, referring the reader to the detailed accounts in Erdmann

and Zeller, we shall only note that Wolff's ethics opposes the principle

of perfection to the English principle of happiness (that is good which

perfects man's condition, and this is life in conformity with nature or

reason, with which happiness is necessarily connected); that he makes the

will determined by the understanding, and assigns ignorance as the cause of

sin; that his philosophy of religion, which argues for a natural religion

in addition to revealed religion (experiential and rational proofs for the

existence of God, and a deduction of his attributes), and sets up certain

tests for the genuineness of revelation, favors a rationalism which was

flexible enough to allow his pupils either to take part in orthodox

movements or to advance to a deism hostile to the Church.

Among the followers of Wolff, Alexander Baumgarten (1714-62) deserves

the first place, as the founder of German aesthetics (Aesthetica , 1750

\_seq\_.). He perceives a gap in the system of the philosophical sciences.

This contains in ethics a guide to right volition, and in logic a guide

to correct thinking, but there are no directions for correct feeling, no

aesthetic. The beautiful would form the subject of this

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discipline. For the
perfection (the harmonious unity of a manifold, which is
pleasant to the
spectator), which manifests itself to the will as the
good and to the
clear thinking of the understanding as the true,
appears--according to
Leibnitz -- to confused sensuous perception as beauty.
From this on the name
aesthetics was established for the theory of the
beautiful, though in
Kant's great work it is used in its literal meaning as
the doctrine of
sense, of the faculty of sensations or intuitions.
Baumgarten's pupils
and followers, the aesthetic writer G.F. Meier at Halle,
Baumeister, and
others, contributed like himself to the dissemination of
the Wolffian
system by their manuals on different branches of
philosophy. To this school
belong also the following: Thümmig ( Institutiones
Philosophia Wolfianae,
1725-26); the theologian Siegmund Baumgarten at Halle,
the elder brother
of the aesthete; the mathematician Martin Knutzen,
Kant's teacher;[1] the
literary historian Gottsched [2] at Leipsic; and G.
Ploucquet, who in
his Methodus Calculandi in Logicis, with a
Commentatio de Arte
Characteristica Universali appended to his Principia
de Substantiis et
Phaenomenis , 1753, took up again Leibnitz's cherished
plan for a logical
calculus and a universal symbolic language. The
psychologist Kasimir von
Creuz (_Essay on the Soul_, in two parts, 1753-54), and
J.H. Lambert,[3]
whom Kant deemed worthy of a detailed correspondence,
take up a more
independent position, both demanding that the Wolffian
rationalism be
supplemented by the empiricism of Locke, and the latter,
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moreover, in

anticipation of the Critique of Reason, pointing very definitely to the distinction between content and form as the salient point in the theory of knowledge. [Footnote 1: Benno Erdmann, M. Knutzen und seine Zeit\_, 1876.] [Footnote 2: Th. W. Danzel, \_Gottsched und seine Zeit\_, 1848.1 [Footnote 3: Lambert: Cosmological Letters , 1761; New Organon , 1764; Groundwork of Architectonics , 1771. Bernoulli edited some of Lambert's papers and his correspondence.] Among the opponents of the Wolffian philosophy, all of whom favor eclecticism, A. Rüdiger[1] and Chr. Aug. Crusius, [2] who was influenced by Rüdiger, and, like him, a professor at Leipsic, are the most important. Rüdiger divides philosophy according to its objects, "wisdom, justice, prudence," into three parts--the science of nature (which must avoid one-sided mechanical views, and employ ether, air, and spirit as principles of explanation); the science of duty (which, as metaphysics, treats of duties toward God, as natural law, of duties to our neighbor, and deduces both from the primary duty of obedience to the will of God); and the science of the good (in which Rüdiger follows the treatise of the Spaniard, Gracian, on practical wisdom). Crusius agrees with Rüdiger that mathematics is the science of the possible, and philosophy the science of the actual, and that the latter, instead of imitating to its own

deductive-analytical method of geometry, must, with the

disadvantage the

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aid of experience
and with attention to the probability of its
conclusions, rise to the
highest principles synthetically. Besides its deduction
the determinism
of the Wolffian philosophy gave offense, for it was
believed to endanger
morals, justice, and religion. The will, the special
fundamental power of
the soul (consisting of the impulses to perfection,
love, and knowledge),
is far from being determined by ideas; it is rather they
which depend on
the will. The application of the principle of sufficient
reason, which is
wrongly held to admit of no exception, must be
restricted in favor of
freedom. For the rest, we may note concerning Crusius
that he derives the
principle of sufficient reason (everything which is now,
and before was
not, has a cause) and the principle of contingency from
the principles of
contradiction, inseparability, and incompatibility, and
these latter from
the principle of conceivability; that he rejects the
ontological argument,
and makes the ground of obligation in morality consist
in obedience toward
God, and its content in perfection. Among the other
opponents of the
Wolffian philosophy, we may mention the theologian
Budde(us)[3]
(Institutiones Philosophiae Eclecticae , 1705); Darjes
(who taught in Jena
and Frankfort-on-the-Oder; The Way to Truth , 1755);
and Crousaz (1744).
[Footnote 1: Rüdiger: Disputatio de eo quod Omnes Idea
Oriantur a
Sensione_, 1704; _Philosophia Synthetica_, 1707;
Physica Divina , 1716;
Philosophia Pragmatica_, 1723.]
[Footnote 2: Crusius: De Usu et Limitibus Principii
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Rationis\_, 1743;
\_Directions how to Live a Rational Life\_ (theory of the will and of ethics), 1744; \_A Sketch of the Necessary Truths of Reason\_, 1745; \_Way to the Certainty and Trustworthiness of Human Knowledge\_, 1747.]

[Footnote 3: J.J. Brucker \_(Historia Critica Philosophiae\_, 5 vols., 1742-44; 2d ed., 6 vols., 1766-67) was a pupil of Budde.]

%3. The Illumination as Scientific and as Popular
Philosophy.%

After a demand for the union of Leibnitz and Locke, of rationalism and

empiricism, had been raised within the Wolffian school itself, and still

more directly in the camp of its opponents, under the increasing influence

of the empirical philosophy of England,[1] eclecticism in the spirit of

Thomasius took full possession of the stage in the Illumination period.

There was the less hesitation in combining principles derived from entirely

different postulates without regard to their systematic connection, as

the interest in scholastic investigation gave place more and more to the

interest in practical and reassuring results.

Metaphysics, noëtics, and

natural philosophy were laid aside as useless subtleties, and, as in the

period succeeding Aristotle, man as an individual and whatever directly

relates to his welfare--the constitution of his inner nature, his duties,

the immortality of the soul, and the existence of God--became the exclusive

subjects of reflection. The fact that, besides ethics and religion,

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psychology was chosen as a favorite field, is in
complete harmony with the
general temper of an age for which self-observation and
the enjoyment of
tender and elevated feelings in long, delightfully
friendly letters and
sentimental diaries had become a favorite habit. Hand in
hand with this
narrowing of the content of philosophy went a change in
the form of
presentation. As thinkers now addressed themselves to
all cultivated
people, intelligibility and agreeableness were made the
prime requisites;
the style became light and flowing, the method of
treatment facile and
often superficial. This is true not only of the popular
philosophers
proper -- who, as Windelband pertinently remarks (vol. i.
p. 563), did not
seek after the truth, but believed that they already
possessed it, and
desired only to disseminate it; who did not aim at the
promotion of
investigation, but the instruction of the public -- but to
a certain extent,
also, of those who were conscious of laboring in the
service of science.
Among the representatives of the more polite tendency
belong, Moses
Mendelssohn[2] (1729-86); Thomas Abbt (On Death for the
Fatherland , 1761;
On Merit , 1765); J.J. Engel ( The philosopher for the
World , 1775); G.S.
Steinbart ( The Christian Doctrine of Happiness , 1778);
Ernst Platner
( Philosophical Aphorisms , 1776, 1782; on Platner cf.
M. Heinze, 1880);
G.C. Lichtenberg (died 1799; Miscellaneous Writings,
1800 seq .; a
selection is given in Reclam's Bibliothek ); Christian
Garve (died 1798;
Essays , 1792 seq.; Translations from the Ethical
Works of Aristotle,
Cicero, and Ferguson ); and Friedrich Nicolai[3] (died
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1811). Eberhard, Feder, and Meiners will be mentioned later among the opponents of the Kantian philosophy. [Footnote 1: The influence of the English philosophers on the German philosophy of the eighteenth century is discussed by Gustav Zart, 1881.] [Footnote 2: Mendelssohn: Letters on the Sensations, 1755; On Evidence in the Metaphysical Sciences , a prize essay crowned by the Academy, 1764; Phaedo, or on Immortality , 1767; Jerusalem , 1783; Morning Hours, or on the Existence of God\_, 1785; \_To the Friends of Lessing (against Jacobi), 1786; Works , 1843-44. Cf. on Mendelssohn, Kayserling, 1856, 1862, 1883.] [Footnote 3: Nicolai: Library of Belles Lettres , from 1757; Letters on the Most Recent German Literature , from 1759; Universal German Library , from 1765; New Universal German Library , 1793-1805. Among the psychologists J.N. Tetens, whose Philosophical Essays on Human Nature , 1776-77, show a remarkable similarity to the views of Kant,[1] takes the first rank. The two thinkers evidently influenced each other. The three fold division of the activities of the soul, "knowing, feeling, and willing," which has now become popular and which appears to us self-evident, is to be referred to Tetens, from whom Kant took it; in opposition to the twofold division of Aristotle and Wolff into "cognition and appetition," he established the equal rights of the faculty of feeling--which had previously been defended by Sulzer (1751), the aesthetic

writer, and by Mendelssohn (1755, 1763, 1785). Besides Tetens, the

following should be mentioned among the psychologists: Tetens's opponent,

Johann Lossius (1775), an adherent of Bonnet; D.

Tiedemann ( Inquiries

concerning Man\_, from 1777), who was estimable also as a historian of

philosophy (\_Spirit of Speculative Philosophy\_, 1791-97); Von Irwing

(1772 \_seq\_.; 2d ed., 1777); and K. Ph. Moriz (\_Magazin zur

Erfahrungsseelenlehre\_, from 1785). Basedow (died 1790), Campe (died 1818),

and J.H. Pestalozzi (1745-1827) did valuable work in pedagogics.

[Footnote 1: Sensation gives the content, and the understanding

spontaneously produces the form, of knowledge. The only objectivity of

knowledge which we can attain consists in the subjective necessity of the

forms of thought or the ideas of relation. Perception enables us to cognize

phenomena only, not the true essence of things and of ourselves, etc.

One of the clearest and most acute minds among the philosophers of the

Illumination was the deist Hermann Samuel Reimarus[1] (1694-1768), from

1728 professor in Hamburg. He attacks atheism, in whatever form it may

present itself, with as much zeal and conviction as he shows in breaking

down the belief in revelation by his inexorable criticism (in his

\_Defense\_, communicated in manuscript to a few friends only). He obtains

his weapons for this double battle from the Wolffian philosophy. The

existence of an extramundane deity is proved by the purposive arrangement

of the world, especially of organisms, which aims at the

good--not merely

of man, as the majority of the physico-theologists have believed, but--of

all living creatures. To believe in a special revelation, i.e., a

miracle, in addition to such a revelation of God as this, which is granted

to all men, and is alone necessary to salvation, is to deny the perfection

of God, and to do violence to the immutability of his providence. To these

general considerations against the credibility of positive revelation

are to be added, as special arguments against the Jewish and Christian

revelations, the untrustworthiness of human testimony in general, the

contradictions in the biblical writings, the uncertainty of their meaning,

and the moral character of the persons regarded as messengers of God, whose

teachings, precepts, and deeds in no wise correspond to their high mission.

Jewish history is a "tissue of sheer follies, shameful deeds, deceptions,

and cruelties, the chief motives of which were selfinterest and lust for

power." The New Testament is also the work of man; all talk of divine

inspiration, an idle delusion, the resurrection of Christ, a fabrication of

the disciples; and the Protestant system, with its dogmas of the Trinity,

the fall of man, original sin, the incarnation, vicarious atonement, and

eternal punishment, contrary to reason. The advance of Reimarus beyond

Wolff consists in the consistent application of the criteria for the divine

character of revelation, which Wolff had set up without making a positive,

not to speak of a negative, use of them. His weakness[2] consists in the

fact that, on the one hand, he contented himself with a rationalistic

interpretation of the biblical narratives, instead of pushing on-as Semler

did after him at Halle (1725-91)--to a historical criticism of the sources,

and, on the other, held fast to the alternative common to all the deists,

"Either divine or human, either an actual event or a fabrication," without

any suspicion of that great intermediate region of religious myth, of the

involuntary and pregnant inventions of the popular fancy.

[Footnote 1: H.S. Reimarus: \_Discussions on the Chief Truths of Natural

Religion\_, 1754; \_General Consideration of the Instincts
of Animals\_, 1762;

\_Apology or Defense for the Rational Worshipers of God\_. Fragments of the

last of these works, which was kept secret during its author's life, were

published by Lessing (the well-known "Wolffenbüttel
Fragments," from

1774). A detailed table of contents is to be found in Reimarus und seine

Schutzschrift\_, 1862, by D. Fr. Strauss, included in the fifth volume of

his \_Gesammelte Schriften\_.]

[Footnote 2: Cf. O. Pfleiderer, \_Philosophy of Religion\_, vol. i. p. 102, p. 106 seq .]

The philosophico-religious standpoint of G.E. Lessing (1729-81), in whom

the Illumination reached its best fruitage, was less one-sided. Apart from

the important aesthetic impulses which flowed from the Laocoon (1766) and

the \_Hamburg Dramaturgy\_ (1767-69), his philosophical significance rests

on two ideas, which have had important consequences for the religious

conceptions of the nineteenth century: the speculative interpretation of

certain dogmas (the Trinity, etc.), and the application of the Leibnitzian idea of development to the history of the positive religions. By both of these he prepared the way for Hegel. In regard to his relation to his predecessors, Lessing sought to mediate between the pantheism of Spinoza and the individualism of Leibnitz; and in his comprehension of the latter showed himself far superior to the Wolffians. He can be called a Spinozist only by those who, like Jacobi, have this title ready for everyone who expresses himself against a transcendent, personal God, and the unconditional freedom of the will. Moreover, in view of his critical and dialectical, rather than systematic, method of thinking, we must quard against laying too great stress on isolated statements by him.[1] [Footnote 1: A caution which Gideon Spicker ( Lessings Weltanschauung , 1883) counsels us not to forget, even in view of the oft cited avowal of determinism, "I thank God that I must, and that I must the best." Among the numerous treatises on Lessing we may note those by G.E. Schwarz (1854), and Zeller (in Sybel's Historische Zeitschrift , 1870, incorporated in the second collection of Zeller's Vorträge und Abhandlungen , 1877); and on his theological position, that of K. Fischer on Lessing's Nathan der

Lessing conceives the Deity as the supreme, all-

Weise , 1864, as well as J.H. Witte's Philosophie

vol. i. \_(Lessing and Herder\_), 1880. [Cf. in English,

and Encyclopedia Britannica , vol. xiv. pp, 478-482.--

unserer Dichterheroen ,

Sime, 2 vols., 1877,

TR.]]

comprehensive, living

unity, which excludes neither a certain kind of plurality nor even a

certain kind of change; without life and action, without the experience of

changing states, the life of God would be miserably wearisome. Things are

not out of, but in him; nevertheless (as "contingent")
they are distinct

from him. The Trinity must be understood in the sense of immanent

distinctions. God has conceived himself, or his perfections, in a twofold

manner: he conceived them as united and himself as their sum, and he

conceived them as single. Now God's thinking is creation, his ideas

actualities. By conceiving his perfections united he created his eternal

image, the Son of God; the bond between God representing and God

represented, between Father and Son, is the Holy Spirit. But when he

conceived his perfections singly he created the world, in which these

manifest themselves divided among a continuous series of particular beings.

Every individual is an isolated divine perfection; the things in the world

are limited gods, all living, all with souls, and of a spiritual nature,

though in different degrees. Development is everywhere; at present the soul

has five senses, but very probably it once had less than five, and in

the future it will have more. At first the actions of men were guided by

obscure instinct; gradually the reason obtained influence over the will,

and one day will govern it completely through its clear and distinct

cognitions. Thus freedom is attained in the course of history--the rational

and virtuous man consciously obeys the divine order of the world, while he

who is unfree obeys unconsciously.

Lessing shares with the deistic Illumination the belief in a religion of

reason, whose basis and essential content are formed by morality; but he

rises far above this level in that he regards the religion of reason not

as the beginning but as the goal of the development, and the positive

religions as necessary transition stages in its attainment. As natural

religion differs in each individual according to his feelings and powers,

without positive enactments there would be no unity and community in

religious matters. Nevertheless the statutory and historical element is

not a graft from without, but a shell organically grown around natural

religion, indispensable for its development, and to be removed but

gradually and by layers--when the inclosed kernel has become ripe and firm.

The history of religions is an \_education of the human race through divine

revelation\_; so teaches his small but thoughtful treatise of 1780.[1] As

the education of the individual man puts nothing extraneous into him, but

only gives him more quickly and easily that which he could have reached of

himself, so human reason is illuminated by revelation concerning things

to which it could have itself attained, only that without God's help the

process would have been longer and more difficult--perhaps it would have

wandered about for many millions of years in the errors of polytheism, if

God had not been pleased by a single stroke (his revelation to Moses) to

give it a better direction. And as the teacher does not impart everything

to the pupil at once, but considers the state of

development reached by him

at each given period, so God in his revelation observes a certain order and

measure. To the rude Jewish people he revealed himself first as a national

God, as the God of their fathers; they had to wait for the Persians to

teach them that the God whom they had hitherto worshiped as the most

powerful among other gods was the only one. Although this lowest stage in

the development of religion lacked the belief in immortality, yet it must

not be lightly valued; let us acknowledge that it was an heroic obedience

for men to observe the laws of God simply because they are the laws of God,

and not because of temporal or future rewards! The first practical teacher

of immortality was Christ; with him the second age of religion begins: the

first good book of elementary instruction, the Old Testament, from which

man had hitherto learned, was followed by the second, better one, the New

Testament. As we now can dispense with the first primer in regard to the

doctrine of the unity of God, and as we gradually begin to be able to

dispense with the second in regard to the doctrine of the immortality of

the soul, so this New Testament may easily contain still further truths,

which for the present we wonder at as revelations, until the reason shall

learn to derive them from other truths already established. Lessing himself

makes an attempt at a philosophical interpretation of the dogmas of the

Trinity (see above), of original sin, and of atonement. Such an advance

from faith to knowledge, such a development of revealed truths into proved

truths of reason, is absolutely necessary. We cannot dispense with the

truths of revelation, but we must not remain content with simply believing

them, but must endeavor to comprehend them; for they have been revealed in

order that they may become rational. They are, as it were, the sum which

the teacher of arithmetic tells his pupils beforehand so that they

may guide themselves by it; but if they content themselves with this

solution--which was given merely as a guide--they would never learn to

calculate. Hand in hand with the advance of the understanding goes the

progress of the will. Future recompenses, which the New Testament promises

as rewards of virtue, are means of education, and will gradually fall into

disuse: in the highest stage, the stage of purity of heart, virtue will

be loved and practiced for its own sake, and no longer for the sake of

heavenly rewards. Slowly but surely, along devious paths which are yet

salutary, we are being led toward that great goal. It will surely come, the

time of consummation, when man will do the good because it is good, this

time of the new, eternal Gospel, this third age, this "Christianity of

reason." Continue, Eternal Providence, thine imperceptible march; let me

not despair of thee because it is imperceptible, not even when to me thy

steps seem to lead backward. It is not true that the straight line is always the shortest.

[Footnote 1: \_Die Erziehung des Menschengeschlects\_.]

With the thought that every individual must traverse the same course as

that by which the race attains its perfection, Lessing connects the idea

of the transmigration of souls. Why may not the

individual man have been present in this world more than once? Is this hypothesis so ridiculous because it is the oldest?

If Lessing abandoned the ranks of the deists by his recognition of the fact that the positive religions contain truth in a gradual process of purification, by his free criticism, on the other hand, he broke with the orthodox, whose idolatrous reverence for the Bible was to him an abomination. The letter is not the spirit, the Bible is not religion, nor yet its foundation, but only its records. Contingent historical truths can never serve as a proof of the necessary truths of reason. Christianity is

Already, in the case of Lessing, we may doubt, in view of his historical

temper and of certain speculative tendencies, whether he is to be included

among the Illuminati. In the case of Kant a decided protest must be

older than the New Testament.

raised against such a classification. When Hegel numbers him among the

philosophers of the Illumination, on account of his lack of rational

intuition, and some theologians on account of his religious rationalism,

the answer to the former is that Kant did not lack the speculative gift,

but only that it was surpassed by his gift of reflection, and, to the

latter, that in regard to the positive element in religion he judged very

differently from the deists and appreciated the historical element more

justly than they--if not to the same extent as Lessing and Herder. We

do not need to lay great stress on the fact that Kant had a lively

consciousness that he was making a contribution to thought, and that the

Illumination contemplated this new doctrine without comprehending it, in

order to recognize that the difference between his efforts and achievements

and those of the Illumination is far greater than their kinship. For

although Kant is upon common ground with it, in so far as he adheres to its

motto, "Have courage to use thine own understanding, become a man, cease

to trust thyself to the guidance of others, and free thyself in all fields

from the yoke of authority," and, although besides such formal injunctions

to freedom of thought, he also shares in certain material tendencies and

convictions (the turning from the world to man, the attempt at a synthesis

of reason and experience, and the belief in a religion of reason); yet in

method and results, he stands like a giant among a race of dwarfs, like one

instructed, who judges from principles, among men of opinion, who merely

stick results together, a methodical systematizer among well-meaning but

impotent eclectics. The philosophy of the Illumination is related to

that of Kant as argument to science, as halting mediation to principiant

resolution, as patchwork to creation out of full resources, yet at the same

time as wish to deed and as negative preparation to positive achievement.

It was undeniably of great value to the Kantian criticism that the

Illumination had created a point of intersection for the various tendencies

of thought, and had brought about the approximation and mutual contact of

the opposing systems which then existed, while, at the same time, it had

crumbled them to pieces, and thus awakened the need for

a new, more firmly and more deeply founded system.

## %4. The Faith Philosophy.%

The philosophers of feeling or faith stand in the same relation to the

German Illumination as Rousseau to the French. Here also the rights of

feeling are vindicated against those of the knowing reason. Among the

distinguished representatives of this anti-rationalistic tendency Hamann

led the way, Herder was the most prolific, and Jacobi the clearest. That

the fountain of certitude is to be sought not in discriminating thought,

but in intuition, experience, revelation, and tradition; that the highest

truths can be felt only and not proved; that all existing things are

incomprehensible, because individual--these are convictions which, before

Jacobi defended them as based on scientific principles, had been vehemently

proclaimed by that singular man, J.G. Hamann (died 1788) of Königsberg.

From an unprinted review by Hamann, Herder drew the objections which his

"Metacritique" raises against Kant's Critique of Reason--that the division

of matter and form, of sensibility and understanding, is inadmissible;

that Kant misunderstood the significance of language, which is just where

sensibility and understanding unite, etc.

In Herder[1] (1744-1803: after 1776 Superintendent-General in Weimar) the

philosophy of feeling gained a finer, more perspicuous and harmonious

nature, who shared Lessing's interest in history and his tendency to

hold fast equally to pantheism and to individualism. God

is the all-one,

infinite, spiritual (non-personal) primal force, which wholly reveals

itself in each thing \_(God: Dialogues on the System of Spinoza , 1787).

To the life, power, wisdom, and goodness of God correspond the life and

perfection of the universe and of individual creatures, each of which

possesses its own irreplaceable value and bears in itself its future in

germ. Everywhere, one and the same life in an ascending series of powers

and forms with imperceptible transitions. Always, an inner and an outer

together; no power without organ, no spirit without a body. As thought is

only a higher stage of sensation, which develops from the lower by means of

language--reason, like sense, is not a productive but a receptive faculty

of knowing, perceiving ("\_Vernehmen\_")--so the free process of history is

only the continuation and completion of the nature-process (\_Ideas for the

Philosophy of the History of Mankind\_, 1784 \_seq\_.). Man, the last child of

nature and her first freedman, is the nodal point where the physical series

of events changes into the ethical; the last member of the organisms of

earth is at the same time the first in the spiritual development. The

mission of history is the unfolding of all the powers which nature

has concentrated in man as the compendium of the world; its law, that

everywhere on our earth everything be realized that can be realized there;

its end, humanity and the harmonious development of all our capacities. As

nature forms a single great organism, and from the stone to man describes

a connected development, so humanity is a one great individual which passes

through its several ages, from infancy (the Orient), through boyhood

(Eygpt and Phoenicia), youth (Greece), and manhood (Rome), to old age (the

Christian world). The spirit stands in the closest dependence upon nature,

and nature is concerned in history throughout. The finer organization of

his brain, the possession of hands, above all, his erect position, make

man, man and endow him with reason. Similarly it is natural conditions,

climate, the character of the soil, the surrounding animal and vegetable

life, etc., that play an essential part in determining the manners, the

characters, and the destinies of nations. The connection of nature with

history by means of the concept of development and through the idea that

the two merely represent different stages of the same fundamental process,

made Herder the forerunner of Schelling.

[Footnote 1: On Herder cf. the biography by R. Haym, 2 vols., 1877, 1885;

and the work by Witte which has been referred to above (p. 306, note).]

His polemic against Kant in the \_Metacritique\_, 1799 (against the \_Critique

of Pure Reason\_), and the dialogue \_Calligone\_, 1800 (against the \_Critique

of Judgment\_), is less pleasing. These are neither dignified in tone nor

essentially of much importance. In the former the distinction between

sensibility and reason is censured, and in the latter the separation of the

beautiful from the true and the good, but Kant's theory of aesthetics is

for the most part grossly misunderstood. The "disinterested" satisfaction

Herder makes a cold satisfaction; the harmonious activity of the cognitive

powers, a tedious, apish sport; the satisfaction
"without a concept,"

judgment without ground or cause. The positive elements in his own views

are more valuable. Pleasure in mere form, without a concept, and without

the idea of an end, is impossible. All beauty must mean or express

something, must be a symbol of inner life; its ground is perfection or

adaptation. Beauty is that symmetrical union of the parts of a being, in

virtue of which it feels well itself and gives pleasure to the observer,

who sympathetically shares in this well-being. The charm and value of the

\_Calligone\_ lie more in the warmth and clearness with which the expressive

beauty of single natural phenomena is described than in the abstract discussion.

Friedrich Heinrich Jacobi (1743-1819) gave the most detailed statement of

the position of the philosophy of feeling, and the most careful proof of

it. He was born in Düsseldorf, the son of a manufacturer; until 1794 he

lived in his native place and at his country residence in Pempelfort; later

he resided in Holstein, and, from 1805, in Munich, where, in 1807-13, he

was president of the Academy of Sciences. Of his works, collected in five

volumes, 1812-25, we are here chiefly concerned with the letters \_On the

Doctrine of Spinoza\_, 1785; \_David Hume on Faith, or Idealism and Realism\_,

1787; and the treatise \_On Divine Things\_, 1811, which called out

Schelling's merciless response, \_Memorial of Jacobi\_. Besides Hume and

Spinoza, the sensationalism of Bonnet and the criticism of Kant had made

the most lasting impression on Jacobi. His relation to

Kant is neither that

of an opponent nor of a supporter and popularizer. He declares himself in

accord with Kant's critique of the understanding (the understanding is

merely a formal function, one which forms and combines concepts only, but

does not guarantee reality, one to which the material of thought must be

given from elsewhere and for which the suprasensible remains unattainable);

in regard to the critique of reason he raises the objection that it; makes

the Ideas mere postulates, which possess no guarantee for their reality.

The critique of sensibility appears to him still more unsatisfactory, as

it does not explain the origin of sensations. Without the concept of the

"thing-in-itself" one cannot enter the Kantian philosophy, and with it

one cannot remain there. Fichte has drawn the correct conclusion from the

Kantian premises; idealism is the unavoidable result of the Critique of

Reason and foretold by; it as the Messiah was foretold by John the Baptist.

And by the evil fruit we know the evil root: the idealistic theory is

philosophical nihilism, for it denies the reality of the external world, as

the materialism of Spinoza denies a transcendent God and the freedom of

the will. Reality slips away from both these systems-they are the only

consistent ones there are--material reality escaping from the former

and suprasensible reality from the latter; and this must be so, because

reality, of whatever kind it be, cannot be known, but only believed and

felt. The actual, the existence of the noumenal as well as of the external

world, even the existence of our own body, makes itself known to us through

revelation alone; the understanding comprehends relations only; the

certainty that a thing exists is attained only through experience and

faith. Sense and reason are the organs of faith, and hence the true

sources of knowledge; the former apprehends the natural, the latter, the

supernatural, while for the understanding is left only the analysis and

combination of given intuitions.

Philosophy as a science from concepts must necessarily prove atheistic and

fatalistic. Conception and proof mean deduction from conditions. How shall

that which has no cause from which to explain it, the unconditioned, God,

and freedom, be comprehended and proved? Demonstration rises along the

chain of causes to the universe alone, not to a transcendent Creator;

mediate knowledge is confined to the sphere of conditioned being and

mechanical becoming. The intuitive knowledge of feeling alone leads us

beyond this, and along with the wonderful, the inconceivable power of

freedom in ourselves, which is above all nature, shows us the primal source

of all wonders, the transcendent God above us. The inference from our

own spiritual, self-conscious, free personality to that of God is no

unauthorized anthropomorphism--in the knowledge of God we may fearlessly

deify our human existence, because God, when he created man, gave his

divine nature human form. Reason and freedom are the same: the former

is theoretical, the latter practical elevation to the suprasensible.

Nevertheless virtue is not based upon an inflexible, despotic, abstractly,

formal law, but upon an instinct, which, however, does

not aim at

happiness. Thus Jacobi attempts to mediate between the ethics of the

Illumination and the ethics of Kant, by agreeing with the former in regard

to the origin of virtue (it arises from a natural impulse), and with the

latter in regard to its nature (it consists in disinterestedness). Hence

with the Illumination he rejects the imperative form, and with Kant the

eudemonistic end. At the same time he endeavors to introduce Herder's idea

of individuality into ethics, by demanding that morality assume a special

form in each man. Schiller and the romantic school take from Jacobi their

ideal of the "beautiful soul," which from natural impulse realizes in its

action, and still more in its being, the good in an individual way.

## %PART II. FROM KANT TO THE PRESENT TIME.%

## CHAPTER IX.

## KANT.

The suit between empiricism and rationalism had continued for centuries,

but still awaited final decision. Are all our ideas the result of

experience, or are they (wholly or in part) an original possession of the

mind? Are they received from without (by perception), or produced from

within (by self-activity)? Is knowledge a product of sensation or of pure

thought? All who had thus far taken part in this

discussion had resembled

partisans or advocates rather than disinterested judges. They had given

less attention to investigation than to the defense of the traditional

theses of their schools; they had not endeavored to obtain results, but

to establish results already determined; and, along with real arguments,

popular appeals had not been despised. Each of the opposing schools had

given variations on a definite theme, and whenever timid attempts had been

made to bring the two melodies into harmony they had met with no approval.

The proceedings thus far had at least made it evident to the unbiased

hearer that each of the two parties made extravagant claims, and, in the

end, fell into self-contradiction. If the claim of empiricism is true, that

all our concepts arise from perception, then not only the science of the

suprasensible, which it denies, but also the science of the objects of

experience, about which it concerns itself, is impossible. For perception

informs us concerning single cases merely, it can never comprehend all

cases, it yields no necessary and universal truth; but knowledge which is

not apodictically valid for every reasoning being and for all cases is

not worthy the name. The very reasons which were intended to prove the

possibility of knowledge give a direct inference to its impossibility. The

empirical philosophy destroys itself, ending with  $\mbox{\tt Hume}$  in skepticism and

probabilism. Rationalism is overtaken by a different, and yet an analogous

fate--it breaks up into a popular eclecticism. It believes that it

has discovered an infallible criterion of truth in the clearness and

distinctness of ideas, and a sure example for philosophical method in the

method of mathematics. In both points it is wrong. The criterion of

truth is insufficient, for Spinoza and Leibnitz built up their opposing

theories--the pantheism of the one and the monadology of the other--from

equally clear and distinct conceptions; tried by this standard

individualism is just as true as pantheism. Mathematics, again, does not

owe its unquestioned acceptance and cogent force to the clearness and

distinctness of its conceptions, but to the fact that these are capable

of construction in intuition. The distinction between mathematics and

metaphysics was overlooked, namely, that mathematical thought can transform

its conceptions into intuitions, can generate its objects or sensuously

present them, which philosophical thought is not in a position to do. The

objects of the latter must be given to it, and to the human mind they are

given in no other way than through sensuous intuition. Metaphysics seeks

to be a science of the real, but it is impossible to conjure being out of

thought; reality cannot be proved from concepts, it can only be felt. In

making the unperceivable and suprasensible (the real nature of things, the

totality of the world, the Deity, and immortality) the special object

of philosophy, rationalism looked on the understanding as a faculty of

knowledge by which objects are given. In reality objects can never be given

through concepts; these only render it possible to think objects given

in some other way (by intuition). It is true that concepts of the

suprasensible exist, but nothing can be known through

them, there is nothing intuitively given to be subsumed under them.

With this failure to perceive the intuitive element in mathematics was

joined the mistake of overlooking its synthetic character. The syllogistic

method of presentation employed in the Euclidean geometry led to the belief

that the more special theorems had been derived from the simpler ones, and

these from the axioms, by a process of conceptual analysis; while the fact

is that in mathematics all progress is by intuition alone, the syllogism

serving merely to formulate and explain truths already attained, but not to

supply new ones. Following the example of mathematics thus misunderstood,

the mission of philosophy was made to consist in the development of

the truths slumbering in pregnant first principles by means of logical

analysis. If only there were metaphysical axioms! If we only did not

demand, and were not compelled to demand, of true science that it increase

our knowledge, and not merely give an analytical explanation of knowledge.

When once the clearness and distinctness of conceptions had been taken

in so purely formal a sense, it was inevitable that in the end, as

productivity became less, the principle should be weakened down to a mere

demand for the explanation and elucidation of the metaphysical ideas

present in popular consciousness. Thus the rationalistic current lost

itself in the shallow waters of the Illumination, which soon gave as

ready a welcome to the empirical theories--since these also were able to

legitimate themselves by clear and distinct conceptions--as it had given to the results of the rationalistic systems.

It was thus easy to see that each of the contending parties had been guilty

of one-sidedness, and that in order to escape this a certain mean must be

assumed between the two extremes; but it was a much more difficult matter

to discover the due middle ground. Neither of the opposing standpoints is

so correct as its defenders believe, and neither so false as its opponents

maintain. Where, then, on either side, does the mistaken narrowness begin,

and how far does the justification of each extend?

The conflict centers, first, about the question concerning the origin of

human knowledge and the sphere of its validity. Rationalism is justified

when it asserts that some ideas do not come from the senses. If knowledge

is to be possible, some concepts cannot originate in perception, those,

namely, by which knowledge is constituted, for if they should, it would

lack universality and necessity. The sole organ of universally valid

knowledge is reason. Empiricism, on the other hand, is justified when it

asserts that the experiential alone is knowable.

Whatever is to be knowable

must be given as a real in sensuous intuition. The only organ of reality is

sensibility. Rationalism judges correctly concerning the origin of the

most important classes of ideas; empiricism concerning the sphere of their

validity. The two may be thus combined: some concepts (those which produce

knowledge) take their origin in reason or are \_a
priori , but they are

valid for objects of experience alone. The conflict concerns, secondly, the

use of the deductive (syllogistic) or the inductive

method. Empiricism,

through its founder Bacon, had recommended induction in place of the barren

syllogistic method, as the only method which would lead to new discoveries.

It demands, above all things, the extension of knowledge. Rationalism, on

the contrary, held fast to the deductive method, because the syllogism

alone, in its view, furnishes knowledge valid for all rational beings. It

demands, first of all, universality and necessity in knowledge. Induction

has the advantage of increasing knowledge, but it leads only to empirical

and comparative, not to strict universality. The syllogism has the

advantage of yielding universal and necessary truth, but it can only

explicate and establish knowledge, not increase it. May it not be possible

so to do justice to the demands of both that the advantages which they seek

shall be combined, and the disadvantages which have been feared, avoided?

Are there not cognitions which increase our knowledge (are \_synthetic\_)

without being empirical, which are universally and necessarily valid

(\_a priori\_) without being analytic? From these
considerations arises the

main question of the \_Critique of Pure Reason\_: How are synthetic judgments a priori possible?

The philosophy of experience had overestimated sense and underestimated the

understanding, when it found the source of all knowledge in the faculty of

perception and degraded the faculty of thought to an almost wholly inactive

recipient of messages coming to it from without. From the standpoint of

empiricism concepts (Ideas) deserve confidence only in so far as they can

legitimate themselves by their origin in sensations (impressions). It

overlooks the \_active\_ character of all knowing. Among the rationalists,

on the other hand, we find an underestimation of the senses and an

overestimation of the understanding. They believe that sense reveals

only the deceptive exterior of things, while reason gives their true

non-sensuous essence. That which the mind perceives of things is deceptive,

but that which it thinks concerning them is true. The former power is the

faculty of confused, the latter the faculty of distinct knowledge. Sense is

the enemy rather than the servant of true knowledge, which consists in the

development and explication of pregnant innate conceptions and principles.

These philosophers forget that we can never reach reality by conceptual

analysis; and that the senses have a far greater importance for knowledge

than merely to give it an impulse; that it is they which supply the

understanding with real objects, and so with the content of knowledge.

Beside the (formal) activity (of the understanding), cognition implies a

passive factor, a reception of impressions. Neither sense alone nor the

understanding alone produces knowledge, but both cognitive powers are

necessary, the active and the passive, the conceptual and the intuitive.

Here the question arises, How do concept and intuition, sensuous and

rational knowledge, differ, and what is the basis of their congruence?

Notwithstanding their different points of departure and their variant

results, the two main tendencies of modern philosophy agree in certain

points. If the conflict between the two schools and

their one-sidedness

suggested the idea of supplementing the conclusions of the one by those of

the other, the recognition of the incorrectness of their common

convictions furnished the occasion to go beyond them and to establish a

new, a higher point of view above them both, as also above the eclecticism

which sought to unite the opposing principles. The errors common to both

concern, in the first place, the nature of judgment and the difference

between sensibility and understanding. Neither side had recognized that

the peculiar character of judgment consists in  $\_$ active connection . The

rationalists made judgment an active function, it is true, but a mere

activity of conscious development, of elucidation and analytical inference,

which does not advance knowledge a single step. The empiricists described

it as a process of comparison and discrimination, as the mere perception

and recognition of the relations and connections already existing between

ideas; while in reality judgment does not discover the relations and

connections of representations, but itself establishes them. In the former

case the synthetic moment is ignored, in the latter the active moment. The

imperfect view of judgment was one of the reasons for the appearance of

extreme theories concerning the origin of ideas in reason or in perception.

Rationalism regards even those concepts which have a content as innate,

whereas it is only formal concepts which are so. Empiricism regards all,

even the highest formal concepts (the categories), as abstracted from

experience, whereas experience furnishes only the content of knowledge,

and not the synthesis which is necessary to it. On the one hand too much,

and on the other too little, is regarded as the original possession of the

understanding. The question "What concepts are innate?" can be decided only

by answering the further question, What are the concepts through which the

faculty of judgment connects the representations obtained from experience?

These connective concepts, these formal instruments of synthesis are

\_a priori\_. The agreement of the two schools is still greater in regard to

the relation of sense and understanding, notwithstanding the apparently

sharp contrast between them. The empiricist considers thought transformed,

sublimated perception, while the rationalist sees in perception only

confused and less distinct thought. For the former concepts are faded

images of sensations, for the latter sensations are concepts which have not

yet become clear; the difference is scarcely greater than if the one should

call ice frozen water, and the other should prefer to call water melted

ice. Both arrange intuition and thought in a single series, and derive the

one from the other by enhancement or attenuation. Both make the mistake of

recognizing only a difference in degree where a difference in kind exists.

In such a case only an energetic dualism can afford help. Sense and

understanding are not one and the same cognitive power at different stages,

but two heterogeneous faculties. Sensation and thought are not different in

degree, but in kind. As Descartes began with the metaphysical dualism of

extension and thought, so Kant begins with the noëtical dualism of

intuition and thought.

Much more serious, however, than any of the mistakes yet mentioned was

a sin of omission of which the two schools were alike guilty, and the

recognition and avoidance of which constituted in Kant's own eyes the

distinctive character of his philosophy and its principiant-advance beyond

preceding systems. The pre-Kantian thinker had proceeded to the discussion

of knowledge without raising \_the question of the possibility of

knowledge\_. He had approached things in the full confidence that the human

mind was capable of cognizing them, and with a naïve trust in the power of

reason to possess itself of the truth. His trust was naïve and ingenuous,

because the idea that it could deceive him had never entered his mind. Now

no matter whether this belief in man's capacity for knowledge and in the

possibility of knowing things is justifiable or not, and no matter how

far it may be justifiable, it was in any case untested; so that when the

skeptic approached with his objections the dogmatist was defenseless.

All previous philosophy, so far as it had not been skeptical, had been,

according to Kant's expression, dogmatic; that is, it had held as an

article of faith, and without precedent inquiry, that we possess the power

of cognizing objects. It had not asked \_how\_ this is possible; it had not

even asked what knowledge is, what may and must be demanded of it, and by

what means our reason is in a position to satisfy such demands. It had left

human intelligence and its extent uninvestigated. The skeptic, on the other

hand, had been no more thorough. He had doubted and denied man's capacity

for knowledge just as uncritically as the dogmatist had believed and

presupposed it. He had directed his ingenuity against the theories of

dogmatic philosophy, instead of toward the fundamental question of the

possibility of knowledge. Human intelligence, which the dogmatist had

approached with unreasoned trust and the skeptic with just as unreasoned

distrust, is subjected, according to the plan of the critical philosopher,

to a searching examination. For this reason Kant termed his standpoint

"criticism," and his undertaking a "Critique of Reason."
Instead of

asserting and denying, he investigates how knowledge arises, of what

factors it is composed, and how far it extends. He inquires into the origin

and extent of knowledge, into its sources and its limits, into the grounds

of its existence and of its legitimacy. The Critique of Reason finds itself

confronted by two problems, the second of which cannot be solved until

after the solution of the first. The investigation of the sources of

knowledge must precede the inquiry into the extent of knowledge. Only after

the conditions of knowledge have been established can it be ascertained

what objects are attainable by it. Its sphere cannot be determined except

from its origin.

Whether the critical philosopher stands nearer to the skeptic or to the

dogmatist is rather an idle question. He is specifically distinct from

both, in that he summons and guides the reason to self-contemplation, to

a methodical examination of its capacity for knowledge. Where the one had

blindly trusted and the other suspected and denied, he

investigates; they

overlook, he raises the question of the possibility of knowledge. The

critical problem does not mean, Does a faculty of knowledge exist? but, Of

what powers is it composed? are all objects knowable which have been so

regarded? Kant does not ask whether, but how and by what means, knowledge

is possible. Everyone who gives himself to scientific reflection must

postulate that knowledge is possible, and the demand of the noëtical

theorists of the day for a philosophy absolutely without assumptions is

quite incapable of fulfillment. Nay, in order to be able to begin his

inquiry at all, it was necessary for Kant to assume still more special

postulates; for that a cognition of cognition is possible, that there is a

critical, self-investigating reason could, at first, be only a matter of

belief. This would not have excluded a supplementary detailed statement

concerning the \_how\_ of this self-knowledge, concerning the organ of the

critical philosophy. But Kant never gave one, and the omission subsequently

led to a sharp debate concerning the character and method of the Critique

of Reason. On this point, if we may so express it, Kant remained a dogmatist.

Kant felt himself to be the finisher of skepticism; but this was chiefly

because he had received the strongest impulse to the development of his

critique of knowledge from Hume's inquiries concerning causation. Brought

up in the dogmatic rationalism of the Wolffian school, to which he

remained true for a considerable period as a teacher and writer (till about

1760), although at the same time he was inquiring with an independent

spirit, Kant was gradually won over through the influence of the English

philosophy to the side of empirical skepticism. Then-as the result, no

doubt, of reading the \_Nouveaux Essais\_ of Leibnitz, published in

1765--he returned to rationalistic principles, until finally, after a

renewal of empirical influences,[1] he took the position crystallized in

the \_Critique of Pure Reason\_, 1781, which, however, experienced still

other, though less considerable, changes in the sequel, just as in itself

it shows the traces of previous transformations.

[Footnote 1: Cf. H. Vaihinger's \_Kommentar zu Kants Kritik der reinen

Vernunft\_, vol. i., 1881, pp. 48-49. This is a work marked by acuteness,

great industry, and an objective point of view which merits respect. The

second volume, which treats of the Transcendental Aesthetic, appeared in 1892.

It would be a most interesting task to trace in the writings which belong

to Kant's pre-critical period the growth and development of the fundamental

critical positions. Here, however, we can only mention in passing the

subjects of his reflection and some of the most striking anticipations and

beginnings of his epoch-making position. Even his maiden work, Thoughts on

the True Estimation of Vis Viva\_, 1747, betokens the mediating nature of

its author. In this it is argued that when men of profound and penetrating

minds maintain exactly opposite opinions, attention must be chiefly

directed to some intermediate principle to a certain

degree compatible with

the correctness of both parties. The question under discussion was whether

the measure of \_vis viva\_ is equal, as the Cartesians thought, to the

product of the mass into the velocity, or, according to the Leibnitzians,

to the product of the mass into the square of the velocity. Kant's

unsatisfactory solution of the problem--the law of Descartes holds for

dead, and that of Leibnitz for living forces--drew upon him the derision

of Lessing, who said that he had endeavored to estimate living forces

without having tested his own. A similar tendency toward compromise--this

time it is a synthesis of Leibnitz and Newton--is seen in his

\_Habilitationsschrift, Principiorum Primorum Cognitionis Metaphysicae Nova

Dilucidatio\_, 1755, and in the dissertation \_Monadologia Physica\_, 1756.

The former distinguishes between \_ratio essendi\_ and ratio cognoscendi ,

rejects the ontological argument, and defends determinism against Crusius

on Leibnitzian grounds. In the \_Physical Monadology\_ Kant gives his

adherence to dynamism (matter the product of attraction and repulsion), and

makes the monads or elements of body fill space without prejudice to  $% \left( 1\right) =\left( 1\right) +\left( 1\right$ 

their simplicity. A series of treatises is devoted to subjects in natural

science: The Effect of the Tides in retarding the Earth's Rotation; The

Obsolescence of the Earth; Fire (Inaugural

Dissertation), Earthquakes, and

the Theory of the Winds. The most important of these, the General Natural

History and Theory of the Heavens\_, 1755, which for a long time remained

unnoticed, and which was dedicated to Frederick II., developed the

hypothesis (carried out forty years later by Laplace in ignorance of Kant's

work) of the mechanical origin of the universe and of the motion of the

planets. It presupposes merely the two forces of matter, attraction and

repulsion, and its primitive chaotic condition, a world-mist with elements

of different density. It is noticeable that Kant acknowledges the failure

of the mechanical theory at two points: it is brought to a halt at the

origin of the organic world and at the origin of matter. The mechanical

cosmogony is far from denying creation; on the contrary, the proof that

this well-ordered and purposive world necessarily arose from the regular

action of material forces under law and without divine intervention, can

only serve to support our assumption of a Supreme Intelligence as the

author of matter and its laws; the belief is necessary, just because

nature, even in its chaotic condition, can act only in an orderly and regular way.

The empirical phase of Kant's development is represented by the writings

of the 60's. \_The False Subtlety of the Four Syllogistic Figures\_, 1762,

asserts that the first figure is the only natural one, and that the others

are superfluous and need reduction to the first. In the Only Possible

Foundation for a Demonstration of the Existence of God\_, 1763, which, in

the seventh Reflection of the Second Division,

recapitulates the cosmogony

advanced in the \_Natural History of the Heavens\_, the discussions

concerning being ("existence" is absolute position, not a predicate which

increases the sum of the qualities but is posited in a

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merely relative
way), and the conclusion, prophetical of his later point
of view, "It is
altogether necessary that we should be convinced of
the existence of God,
but not so necessary that his existence should be
demonstrated " are more
noteworthy than the argument itself. This runs: All
possibility presupposes
something actual wherein and whereby all that is
conceivable is given as
a determination or a consequence. That actuality the
destruction of which
would destroy all possibility is absolutely necessary.
Therefore there
exists an absolutely necessary Being as the ultimate
real ground of all
possibility; this Being is one, simple, unchangeable,
eternal, the ens
realissimum and a spirit. The Attempt to introduce the
Notion of
Negative Quantities into Philosophy , 1763,
distinguishes--contrary to
Crusius--between logical opposition, contradiction or
mere negation ( a
and not-a , pleasure and the absence of pleasure, power
and lack of
power), and real opposition, which cannot be explained
by logic (+_a_ and
- a , pleasure and pain, capital and debts, attraction
and repulsion;
in real opposition both determinations are positive, but
in opposite
directions). Parallel with this it distinguishes, also,
between logical
ground and real ground. The prize essay, Inquiry
concerning the Clearness
(Evidence) of the Principles of Natural Theology and
Ethics , 1764, draws
a sharp distinction between mathematical and
metaphysical knowledge, and
warns philosophy against the hurtful imitation of the
geometrical method,
in place of which it should rather take as an example
the method which
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Newton introduced into natural science. Quantity constitutes the object of

mathematics, qualities, the object of philosophy; the former is easy and

simple, the latter difficult and complicated--how much more comprehensible

the conception of a trillion is than the philosophical idea of freedom,

which the philosophers thus far have been unable to make intelligible.

In mathematics the general is considered under symbols \_in concrete\_, in

philosophy, by means of symbols \_in abstracto\_; the former constructs its

object in sensuous intuition, while the object of the latter is given

to it, and that as a confused concept to be decomposed. Mathematics,

therefore, may well begin with definitions, since the conception which is

to be explained is first brought into being through the definition, while

philosophy must begin by seeking her conceptions. In the former the

definition is first in order, and in the latter almost always last; in the

one case the method is synthetic, in the other it is analytic. It is the

function of mathematics to connect and compare clear and certain concepts

of quantity in order to draw conclusions from them; the function of

philosophy is to analyze concepts given in a confused state, and to make

them detailed and definite. Philosophy has also this disadvantage, that

it possesses very many undecomposable concepts and undemonstrable

propositions, while mathematics has only a few such. "Philosophical truths

are like meteors, whose brightness gives no assurance of their permanence.

They vanish, but mathematics remains. Metaphysics is without doubt the most

difficult of all human sciences \_(Einsichten)\_, but a

metaphysic has

never yet been written"; for one cannot be so kind as to "apply the term

philosophy to all that is contained in the books which bear this title." In

the closing paragraphs, on the ultimate bases of ethics, the stern features

of the categorical imperative are already seen, veiled by the English

theory of moral sense, while the attractive Observations on the Feeling

of the Beautiful and the Sublime\_, which appeared in the same year, still

naïvely follow the empirical road.

The empirical phase reaches its skeptical termination in the satire Dreams

of a Ghost-seer explained by the Dreams of Metaphysics\_, 1766, which pours

out its ingenious sarcasm impartially on spiritualism and on the assumed

knowledge of the suprasensible. Here Kant is already clearly conscious of

his new problem, a theory of the limits of human reason, conscious also

that the attack on this problem is to be begun by a discussion of the

question of space. This second question had been for many years a frequent

subject of his reflections; [1] and it was this part of the general critical

problem that first received definitive solution. In the Latin dissertation

\_On the Form and Principles of the Sensible and Intelligible World\_, 1770,

which concludes the pre-critical period, and which was written on the

occasion of his assumption of his chair as ordinary professor, the

critique of sensibility, the new theory of space and time, is set forth in

approximately the same form as in the \_Critique of Pure Reason\_, while the

critique of the understanding and of reason, the theory of the categories

and the Ideas and of the sphere of their validity, required for its

completion the intellectual labor of several more years. For this essay,

\_De Mundi Sensibilis atque Intelligibilis Forma et Principiis , leaves

unchallenged the possibility of a knowledge of things in themselves and of

God, thus showing that its author has abandoned the skepticism maintained

in the \_Dreams of a Ghost-seer\_, and has turned anew to dogmatic

rationalism, whose final overthrow required another swing in the direction

of skeptical empiricism. In regard to the progress of this latter phase

of opinion, the letters to  ${\tt M.}$  Herz are almost the only, though not very

valuable, source of information.

[Footnote 1: \_New Theory of Motion and Rest\_, 1758; \_On the First Ground of the Distinction of Positions in Space\_, 1768; besides several of the works mentioned above.]

The \_Critique of Pure Reason\_ appeared in 1781, much later than Kant had

hoped when he began a work on "The Limits of Sensibility and Reason," and a

second, altered edition in 1787.[1] After the Prolegomena to every Future

Metaphysic which may present itself as Science\_, 1783, had given a popular

form to the critical doctrine of knowledge, it was followed by the critical

philosophy of ethics in the \_Foundation of the Metaphysics of Ethics ,

1785, and the \_Critique of Practical Reason\_, 1788; by the critical

aesthetics and teleology in the \_Critique of Judgment\_, 1790; and by the

critical philosophy of religion in \_Religion within the Limits of Reason

Only\_, 1793[2] (consisting of four essays, of which the

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first, "Of Radical
Evil, " had already appeared in the Berliner
Monatsschrift in 1792). The
Metaphysical Elements of Natural Science , 1786, and
the Metaphysics
of Ethics , 1797 (in two parts, "Metaphysical Elements
of the Theory of
Right, and "Metaphysical Elements of the Theory of
Virtue "), are devoted
to the development of the system. The year 1798 brought
two more larger
works, the Conflict of the Faculties and the
Anthropology . Of the
reviews, that on Herder's _Ideen _ maybe mentioned, and
among the minor
essays, the following: Idea for a Universal History in
a Cosmopolitan
Sense, Answer to the Question: What is Illumination f
both in 1784:
What does it mean to Orient oneself in Thought ? 1786;
On the Use of
Teleological Principles in Philosophy , 1788; On a
Discovery according to
which all Recent Criticism of Pure Reason is to be
superseded by a Previous
One , 1790; On the Progress of Metaphysics since the
Time of Wolff; On
Philosophy in General, The End of all Things , 1794; On
Everlasting
Peace , 1795. Kant's Logic was published by Jäsche in
1800; his Physical
Geography and his Observations on Pedagogics by F.T.
Rink in 1803; his
lectures on the Philosophical Theory of Religion
(1817; 2d. ed., 1830)
and on Metaphysics (1821; cf. Benno Erdmann in the
Philosophische
Monatshefte_, vol. xix. 1883, p. 129 seq ., and vol.
xx. 1884, p. 65
seq .) by Pölitz. If we may judge by the specimens
given by Reicke in the
Altpreussische Monatsschrift , 1882-84, and by Krause
himself,[3]
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the promised publication of a manuscript of Kant's last

years, now in

possession of the Hamburg pastor, Albrecht Krause, and which discusses the

transition from the metaphysical elements of natural science to physics,

will hardly meet the expectations which some have cherished concerning it.

Benno Erdmann has issued \_Nachträge zu Kants Kritik der reinen Vernunft aus

Kants Nachlass\_, 1881, and \_Reflexionen Kants zur kritischen Philosophie

aus handschriftlichen Aufzeichnungen\_--the first volume
first Heft

(Reflexionen zur Anthropologie\_) appearing in 1882, the second volume

\_(Reflexionen zur Kritik der reinen Vernunft, aus Kants Handexemplar

von Baumgartens Metaphysica) in 1884. Max Müller has made an English

translation of the \_Critique of Pure Reason\_, 2 vols., 1881.[4]

[Footnote 1: There has been much discussion and much has been written

concerning the relation of the two editions. In opposition to Schopenhauer

and Kuno Fischer it must be maintained that the alterations in the second

edition consist in giving greater prominence to realistic elements, which

in the first edition remained in the background, though present even

there.

[Footnote 2: This publication was the occasion of a conflict between Kant

and the censorship concerning the right of free religious inquiry; cf.

Dilthey in the \_Archiv für Geschichte der Philosophie\_, vol. in. 1890, pp. 418-450.]

[Footnote 3: A. Krause: \_I. Kant wider K. Fischer, zum ersten Male mit

Hülfe des verloren gewesenen Kantischen Hauptwerkes vertheidigt\_, 1884 (in

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reply, K. Fischer, Das Streber- und Gründerthum in der
Litteratur_,
1884); also, Das nachgelassene Werk I. Kants, mit
Belegen
populär-wissenschaftlich dargestellt , 1888.]
[Footnote 4: Besides this (centenary) translation the
English reader may
be referred to the earlier version of Meiklejohn in
Bonn's Library; to the
versions of the Prolegomena by Bax (also in Bonn's
Library, and including
the Metaphysical Elements of Natural Science ), and
Mahaffy and Bernard,
new ed., 1889; to Abbot's _Kant's Theory of Ethics_, 4th
ed., 1889,
containing the Foundation of the Metaphysics of Ethics
and the Critique
of Practical Reason entire, with portions of the
Metaphysics of Ethics
and Religion within the Limits of Reason Only; to
Bernard's translation
of the Kritik of Judgment , 1892; and to Watson's
Selections from Kant,
2d ed., 1888 (in Sneath's Modern Philosophers, 1892).--
TR.]
The best complete edition of the works of Kant is the
second edition of
Hartenstein, in eight volumes, 1867-68, which is
chronologically arranged
and excellently gotten up. Simultaneously with the first
edition of
Hartenstein in ten volumes, in 1838 seq ., appeared the
edition in twelve
volumes by K. Rosenkranz and F.W. Schubert (containing
in the last volumes
a biography of Kant by Schubert, and a history of the
Kantian philosophy by
Rosenkranz, 1842). Kehrbach's edition of the principal
works in Reclam's
Universal-Bibliothek , with the pagination of the
original and collective
editions (1877 seq .), is more valuable than Von
Kirchmann's edition of
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the complete works in his Philosophische Bibliothek.

Among the works on Kant those of Kuno Fischer (vols. iii.-iv. of the

\_Geschichte der neueren Philosophie\_, 3d ed., 1882; also Kant's Leben und

die Grundlagen seiner Lehre\_, 1860) take the first place. The writings of

Liebmann, Cohen, Stadler, Riehl, Volkelt, and others will be mentioned

later, in connection with the neo-Kantian movement; here we may give some

of the more important monographs and essays, selected from the enormously

developed Kantian literature:

Ad. Böhringer, \_Kants erkenntnisstheoretischer Idealismus , 1888;

K. Dieterich, \_Die Kantische Philosophie in ihrer inneren

Entwickelungsgeschichte\_, 2 parts, 1885 (first published separately,

\_Kant und Newton\_, 1877; \_Kant und Rousseau\_, 1878); W. Dilthey, Aus

den Rostocker Kanthandschriften in the Archiv für Geschichte der

Philosophie\_, vols. ii.-iii. 1889-90; M.W. Drobisch, Kants Ding an sich

und sein Erfahrungsbegriff\_, 1885; B. Erdmann, \_Kants Kritizismus in der

I. und II. Auflage der Kritik der reinen Vernunft\_,
1878; the same, \_Kants

Prolegomena herausgegeben und erläutert\_, 1878, Introduction (in reply Emil

Arnoldt, \_Kants Prolegomena nicht doppelt redigiert\_, 1879; cf. also H.

Vaihinger, \_Die Erdmann-Arnoldtsche Kontroverse\_ in the \_Philosophische

Monatshefte\_, vol. xvi. 1880); Franz Erhardt, \_Kritik der Kantischen

Antinomienlehre\_, 1888; R. Eucken, \_Ueber Bilder und Gleichnisse bei

Kant, Zeitschrift für Philosophie\_, vol. lxxxiii, 1883, reprinted in his

\_Beiträge zur Geschichte der neueren Philosophie\_, 1886;

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F. Frederichs,
Der phänomenale Idealismus Berkeleys und Kants , 1871;
the same, Kants
Prinzip der Ethik , 1879; Ed. von Hartmann, Das Ding an
sich und seine
Beschaffenheit, 1871, in the 2d ed., 1875, and the 3d,
1885, entitled
Kritische Grundlegung des transzendentalen Realismus;
C. Hebler,
Kantiana , in his Philosophische Aufsätze , 1869;
Alfred Hegler, Die
Psychologie in Kants Ethik , 1891; A. Hölder,
Darstellung der Kantischen
Erkenntnisstheorie , 1873 J. Jacobson, Die Auffindung
des Apriori_, 1876;
the same, Ueber die Beziehungen zwischen Kategorien und
Urtheilsformen ,
1877; Wilhelm Koppelmann, Kants Lehre vom analytischen
Urtheil, Philosoph.
Monatshefte , vol. xxi, 1885; the same, Lotzes Stellung
zu Kants
Kritizismus, Zeitschrift für Philosophie, vol.
lxxxviii, 1886; the same,
Kants Lehre vom kategorischen Imperativ , 1888; the
same, Kant und die
Grundlagen der Christlichen Religion , 1890; E. Laas,
Kants Analogien
der Erfahrung , 1876; the same, Einige Bemerkungen zur
Transzendentalphilosophie , Strassburg Abhandlungen ,
1884; J. Mainzer,
Die kritische Epoche in der Lehre von der
Einbildungskraft_, 1881; J.B.
Meyer, Kants Psychologie , 1870; F. Paulsen, Was Kant
uns sein kann,
Vierteljahrsschrift für wissenschaftliche Philosophie,
1881; B. Pünjer,
Die Religionslehre Kants , 1874; R. Quaebicker, Kants
und Herbarts
metaphysische Grundansichten über das Wesen der Seele,
1870; J. Rehmke,
Physiologie und Kantianismus, address in Eisenach,
1883; Rud. Reicke,
Lose Blätter aus Kants Nachlass , 1889 (on this H.
Vaihinger in the
Zeitschrift für Philosophie, vol. xcvi. 1889); O.
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Riedel, Die
monadologischen Bestimmungen in Kants Lehre vom Ding an
sich , dissertation
at Kiel, 1884; O. Schneider, _Die psychologische
Entwickelung des Apriori,
1883; the same, _Transzendentalpsychologie_, 1891; F.
Staudinger,
Noumena , 1884; M. Steckelmacher, Die formale Logik
Kants , Breslau
Prize Essay, 1879; A. Stern, Die Beziehung Garves zu
Kant,
nebst ungedruckten Briefen , 1884; C. Stumpf,
Psychologie und
Erkenntnisstheorie, Abhandlungen der bayerischen
Akademie der
Wissenschaften , 1891; G. Thiele, Kants intellectuelle
Anschauung als
Grundbegriff seines Kritizismus , 1876; the same, Die
Philosophie Kants
nach ihrem systematischen Zusammenhange und ihrer
logischhistorischen
Entiwickelung , I. (1) Kants vorkritische
Naturphilosophie_, 1882; (2)
Kants vorkritische Erkenntnisstheorie , 1887; Ad.
Trendelenburg, Ueber
eine Lücke in Kants Beweis von der ausschliessenden
Subjectivität des
Raumes and der Zeit in vol. iii. of his Historische
Beiträge zur
Philosophie_, 1867; Ueberhorst, Kants Lehre von dem
Verhältnisse der
Kategorien zu der Erfahrung , 1878; H. Vaihinger, Eine
Blattversetzung in
Kants Prolegomena, Philosoph. Monatshefte, vol. xv.
1879; the same, Zu
Kants Widerlegung des Idealismus , Strassburg
Abhandlungen , 1884; J.
Walter, _Zum Gedächtniss Kants, Festrede_, 1881; Th.
Weber, Zur Kritik der
Kantischen Erkenntnisstheorie (from the Zeitschrift
für Philosophie ),
1882; W. Windelband, Ueber die verschiedenen Phasen der
Kantischen Lehre
vom Ding an sich, Vierteljahrsschrift für
wissenschaftliche Philosophie,
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1877 (cf. the same author's \_Geschichte der neueren Philosophie , § 58);

J. Witte, \_Beiträge zum Verständniss Kants\_, 1874; the same, \_Kantischer

Kritizismus gegenüber unkritischem Dilettantismus\_
(against A. Stöhr),

1885; Wohlrabe, \_Kants Lehre vom Gewissen\_, 1889; E. Zeller, Ueber das

Kantische Moralprinzip\_, 1880; R. Zimmermann, \_Ueber Kants Widerlegung des

Idealismus von Berkeley\_, 1871; the same, \_Ueber Kants mathematisches

Vorurtheil und dessen Folgen , 1871.

Popular expositions have been given by the following: K. Fortlage (in his

\_Philos. Vorträge\_, 1869); E. Last, \_Mehr Licht! Die Haupsätze Kants und

Schopenhauers\_, 1879; the same, \_Die realistiche und die idealistische

Anschauung entwickelt an Kants Idealität von Raum und Zeit\_, 1884; H.

Romundt, \_Antaeus, neuer Aufbau der Lehre Kants über Seele, Freiheit,

und Gott\_, 1882; the same, \_Grundlegung zur Reform der Philosophie,

vereinfachte und erweiterte Darstellung von Kants Kritik der reinen

Vernunft\_, 1885; the same, \_Die Vollendung des Socrates, Kants Grundlegung

zur Reform der Sittenlehre\_; the same, \_Ein neuer Paulus, Kants Grundlegung

zu einer sicheren Lehre von der Religion\_, 1886; the same, Die drei Fragen

Kants\_, 1887; A. Krause, \_Populäre Darstellung von Kants Kritik der reinen

Vernunft\_, 1881; K. Lasswitz, \_Die Lehre Kants von der Idealität des

Raumes und der Zeit\_, 1883; Wilhelm Münz, \_Die Grundlagen der Kantischen

Erkenntnisstheorie\_, 2d ed., 1885.

Among foreigners Villers, Cousin, Nolen, Desdouits, Cantoni, E. Caird [\_\A Critical Account of the Philosophy of Kant , 1877; The

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Critical Philosophy
of Immanuel Kant , 2 vols., 1889], Adamson [On the
Philosophy of Kant,
1879, and a valuable article in the Encyclopedia
Britannica , 9th ed.,
vol. xiii.], Stirling [ Text-book to Kant , 1881],
[Watson, Kant and his
English Critics , 1881], Morris Kant's Critique of Pure
Reason_, Griggs's
Philosophical Classics, 1882, [Wallace, Kant,
Blackwood's Philosophical
Classics, 1882; Porter, Kant's Ethics , Griggs's
Philosophical Classics,
1886; Green, Lectures, Works, vol. ii., 1886.--Tr.],
have among others
made contributions to Kantian literature. Of the older
works we may mention
the dictionaries of E. Schmid, 1788, and Mellin (in six
volumes), 1797
seq ., the critique of the Kantian philosophy in the
first volume of
Schopenhauer's chief work, 1819, and the essay of C.H.
Weisse, In
welchem Sinne hat sich die deutsche Philosophie jetzt
wieder an Kant zu
orientieren , 1847.
Kant's outward life was less eventful and less changeful
than his
philosophical development.[1] Born in Königsberg in
1724, the son of J.G.
Cant, a saddler of Scottish descent, his home and school
training were both
strict and of a markedly religious type. He was educated
at the university
of his native city, and for nine years, from 1746 on,
filled the place of
a private tutor. In 1755 he became Docent, in 1770
ordinary professor in
Königsberg, serving also for six years of this time as
under-librarian. He
seldom left his native city and never the province. The
clearness
which marked his extremely popular lectures on physical
geography and
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anthropology was due to his diligent study of works of travel, and to an

unusually acute gift of observation, which enabled him to draw from his

surroundings a comprehensive knowledge of the world and of man. He ceased

lecturing in 1797, and in 1804 old age ended a life which had always, even

in minute detail, been governed by rule. A man of extreme devotion to

duty, particularity, and love of truth, and an amiable, bright, and witty

companion, Kant belongs to the acute rather than to the profound thinkers.

Among his manifold endowments the tendency to combination and the faculty

of intuition (as the \_Critique of Judgment\_ especially shows) are present

to a noticeable degree, yet not so markedly as the power of strict analysis

and subtle discrimination. So that, although a mediating tendency is

rightly regarded as the distinguishing characteristic of the Kantian

thinking, it must also be remembered that synthesis is everywhere preceded

by a mighty work of analysis, and that this still exerts its power even

after the adjustment is complete. Thus Kant became the energetic defender

of a qualitative view of the world in opposition to the quantitative view

of Leibnitz, for which antitheses (\_e.g.\_, sensation and thought, feeling

and cognition, good and evil, duty and inclination) fade into mere

differences of degree.

[Footnote 1: The following have done especially valuable service in the

investigation of the development of Kant's doctrine: Paulsen ( Versuch

einer Entwickelungsgeschichte der Kantischen Erkenntnisstheorie , 1875),

B. Erdmann, Vaihinger, and Windelband. Besides Hume and

Leibnitz, Newton, Locke, Shaftesbury, Rousseau, and Wolff exercised an important influence on Kant.]

In the beginning of this chapter we have indicated how the new ideal of knowledge, under whose banner Kant brought about a reform of philosophy, grew out of the conflict between the rationalistic (dogmatic) and the empirical (skeptical) systems. This combines the Baconian ideal of the extension of knowledge with the Cartesian ideal of certainty in knowledge. It is synthetic judgments alone which extend knowledge, while analytic judgments are explicative merely.[1] A priori judgments alone are perfectly certain, absolutely universal, and necessarily valid; while a posteriori judgments are subjectively valid merely, lack necessity, and, at best, yield only relative universality.[2] All analytic judgments are a priori\_, all empirical or \_a posteriori\_ judgments are synthetic. Between the two lies the object of Kant's search. Do synthetic

[Footnote 1: "All bodies are extended" is an analytic judgment; "all bodies possess weight," a synthetic judgment. The former explicates the concept of the subject by bringing into notice an idea already contained in it and belonging to the definition as a part thereof; it is based on the law of contradiction: an unextended body is a self-contradictory concept. The latter, on the contrary, goes beyond the concept of the subject and adds a predicate which had not been thought therein. It is experience which

judgments a priori

exist, and how are they possible?

teaches us that weight is joined to matter, a fact which cannot be derived

from the concept of matter. Almost all mathematical principles are

synthetic, and here, as will be shown, it is not experience but "pure

intuition" which permits us to go beyond the concept and
add a new mark
to it.]

[Footnote 2: The Scholastics applied the term \_a priori\_ to knowledge from

causes (from that which precedes), and \_a posteriori\_ to knowledge from

effects. Kant, following Leibnitz and Lambert, uses the terms to designate

the antithesis, knowledge from reason and knowledge from experience. An  $\_a$ 

priori\_ judgment is a judgment obtained without the aid
of experience. When

the principle from which it is derived is also independent of experience it

is absolutely \_a priori\_, otherwise it is relatively \_a priori\_.]

Two sciences discuss the \_how\_, and a third the \_if\_ of such judgments,

which, at the same time, are ampliative and absolutely universal and

necessary. The first two sciences are pure mathematics and pure natural

science, of which the former is protected against doubt concerning its

legitimacy by its evident character, and the latter, by the constant

possibility of verification in experience; each, moreover, can point to

the continuous course of its development. All this is absent in the third

science, metaphysics, as science of the suprasensible, and to its great

disadvantage. Experiential verification is in the nature of things denied

to a presumptive knowledge of that which is beyond experience; it lacks

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evidence to such an extent that there is scarcely a
principle to be found
to which all metaphysicians assent, much less a
metaphysical text-book
to compare with Euclid; there is so little continuous
advance that it is
rather true that the later comers are likely to
overthrow all that their
predecessors have taught. In metaphysics, therefore,
which, it must be
confessed, is actual as a natural tendency, the question
is not, as in
the other two sciences, concerning the grounds of its
legitimacy, but
concerning this legitimacy itself. Mathematics and pure
physics form
synthetic judgments a priori , and metaphysics does the
same. But the
principles of the two former are unchallenged, while
those of the third
are not. In the former case the subject for
investigation is, Whence this
authority? in the latter case, Is she thus authorized?
Thus the main question, How are synthetic judgments a
priori_ possible?
divides into the subordinate questions, How is pure
mathematics possible?
How is pure natural science possible, and, How is
metaphysics (in two
senses: metaphysics in general, and metaphysics as
science) possible? The
Transcendental _Aesthetic_ (the critique of sensibility
or the faculty
of intuition) answers the first of these questions; the
Transcendental
Analytic (the critique of the understanding), the
second; and the
Transcendental Dialectic (the critique of "reason" in
the narrower sense)
and the Transcendental Doctrine of Method
(Methodenlehre) , the third. The
Analytic and the Dialectic are the two parts of the
Transcendental "Logic"
(critique of the faculty of thought), which, together
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with the Aesthetic,
forms the Transcendental "Doctrine of Elements"
\_(Elementarlehre)\_, in
contrast to the Doctrine of Method. The \_Critique of
Pure Reason\_ follows
this scheme of subordinate division, while the
\_Prolegomena\_ co-ordinates
all four parts in the manner first mentioned.

Let us anticipate the answers. Pure mathematics is possible, because there

are pure or \_a priori intuitions\_ (space and time), and pure natural

science or the metaphysics of phenomena, because there are a priori

concepts\_ (categories) \_and principles\_ of the pure understanding.

Metaphysics as a presumptive science of the suprasensible has been possible

in the form of unsuccessful attempts, because there are Ideas or concepts

of reason which point beyond experience and look as though knowable objects

were given through them; but as real science it is not possible, because

the application of the categories is restricted to the limits of

experience, while the objects thought through the Ideas cannot be

sensuously given, and all assumed knowledge of them becomes involved in

irresolvable contradictions (antinomies). On the other hand, a science is

possible and necessary to teach the correct use of the categories, which

may be applied to phenomena alone, and of the Ideas, which may be applied

only to our knowledge of things (and our volition), and to determine the

origin and the limits of our knowledge--that is to say, a transcendental

philosophy. In regard to metaphysics (knowledge from pure reason), then,

this is the conclusion reached: Rejection of transcendent metaphysics (that

which goes beyond experience), recognition and development of immanent metaphysics (that which remains within the limits of possible experience). It is not possible as a metaphysic of things in themselves; it is possible

as a metaphysic of nature (of the totality of phenomena), and as a

metaphysic of knowledge (critique of reason).

The interests of the reason are not exhausted, however, by the question,

What can we know? but include two further questions, What ought we to do?

and, What may we hope? Thus to the metaphysics of nature there is added

a metaphysics of morals, and to the critique of theoretical reason, a

critique of practical reason or of the will, together with a critique of

religious belief. For even if a "knowledge" of the suprasensible is denied

to us, yet "practical" grounds are not wanting for a sufficiently certain

"conviction" concerning God, freedom, and immortality.

After carrying the question of the possibility of synthetic judgments \_a

priori\_ from the knowledge of nature over to the knowledge of our duty,

Kant raises it, in the third place, in regard to our judgment concerning

the subjective and objective purposiveness of things, or concerning their

beauty and their perfection, and adds to his critique of the intellect

and the will a critique of the faculty of aesthetic and teleological

\_judgment\_.

The Kantian philosophy accordingly falls into three parts, one theoretical, one practical (and religious), one aesthetic and teleological.

\* \* \* \* \* \*

Before advancing to our account of the first of these parts, a few

preliminary remarks are indispensable concerning the presuppositions

involved in Kant's critical work and on the method which he pursues. The

presuppositions are partly psychological, partly (as the classification of

the forms of judgment and inference, and the twofold division of judgments)

logical, either in the formal or the transcendental sense, and partly

metaphysical (as the thing in itself). Kant takes the first of these from

the psychology of his time, by combining the Wolffian classification of the

faculties with that of Tetens, and thus obtains six different faculties:

lower (sensuous) and higher (intellectual) faculties of cognition, of

feeling, and of appetition; or sensibility (the capacity for receiving

representations through the way in which we are affected by objects),

understanding (the faculty of producing representations spontaneously and

of connecting them); the sensuous feelings of pleasure and pain, taste;

desire, and will. The understanding in the wide sense is equivalent to the

higher faculty of cognition, and divides further into understanding in the

stricter sense (faculty of concepts), judgment (faculty of judging), and

reason (faculty of inference). Of these the first gives laws to the faculty

of cognition or to nature, the second laws to taste, and the third laws to the will.

The most important of the fundamental assumptions concerns the relation, the nature, and the mission of the two faculties of

cognition. These do

not differ in degree, through the possession of greater or less

distinctness--for there are sensuous representations which are distinct and

intellectual ones which are not so--but specifically: Sensibility is the

faculty of intuitions, understanding the faculty of concepts. Intuitions

are particular, concepts general representations. The former relate to

objects directly, the latter only indirectly (through the mediation of

other representations). In intuition the mind is receptive, in conception

it acts spontaneously. "Through intuitions objects are given to us;

through concepts they are \_thought\_." It results from this that neither of

the two faculties is of itself sufficient for the attainment of knowledge,

for cognition is objective thinking, the determination of objects, the

unifying combination or elaboration of a given manifold, the forming of a

material content. Rationalists and empiricists alike have been deceived

in regard to the necessity for co-operation between the senses and the

understanding. Sensibility furnishes the material manifold, which of itself

it is not able to form, while the understanding gives the unifying form, to

which of itself it cannot furnish a content. "Intuitions without concepts

are \_blind\_" (formless, unintelligible), "concepts
without intuitions are

\_empty\_" (without content). In the one case, form and order are wanting; in

the other, the material to be formed. The two faculties are thrown back on

each other, and knowledge can arise only from their union.

A certain degree of form is attained in sense, it is

true, since the chaos

of sensations is ordered under the "forms of intuition," space and time,

which are an original possession of the intuiting subject, but this is

not sufficient, without the aid of the understanding, for the genesis of

knowledge. In view of the \_a priori\_ nature of space and time, though

without detraction from their intuitive character (they are immediate

particular representations), we may assign pure sensibility to the higher

faculty of cognition and speak of an intuiting reason.

The forms of intuition and of thought come from within, they lie ready in

the mind \_a priori\_, though not as completed representations. They are

functions, necessary actions of the soul, for the execution of which a

stimulus from without, through sensations, is necessary, but which, when

once this is given, the soul brings forth spontaneously. The external

impulse merely gives the soul the occasion for such productive acts, while  $% \left( 1\right) =\left( 1\right) \left( 1\right) +\left( 1\right) \left( 1\right) \left( 1\right) +\left( 1\right) \left( 1$ 

their grounds and laws are found in its own nature. In this sense Kant

terms them "originally acquired," and in the Introduction to the Critique

of Pure Reason\_ declares that although it is indubitable that "all our

knowledge begins \_with\_ experience (impressions of sense), yet it does not

all arise  $\_$ from $\_$  experience." That a representation or cognition is  $\_$ a

priori\_[1] does not mean that it precedes experience in time, but that

(apart from the merely exciting, non-productive stimulation through

impressions already mentioned) it is independent of all experience, that it

is not derived or borrowed from experience.

[Footnote 1: The terms \_a priori\_ representation and pure representation

(concept, intuition) are equivalent; but in judgments, on the other hand,

there is a distinction. A judgment is \_a priori\_ when the connection takes

place independently of experience, no matter whether the concepts connected

are \_a priori\_ or not. If the former is the case the \_a priori\_ judgment is

pure (mixed with nothing empirical); if the latter, it
is mixed.]

The material of intuition and thought is given to the soul, received by

it; it arises through the action of objects upon the senses, and is always

empirical. Intuition is the only organ of reality; in sensation the

presence of a real object as the cause of the sensation is directly

revealed. When Kant's transcendental idealism was placed by a reviewer on a

level with the empirical idealism of Berkeley, which denies the existence

of the external world, he distinctly asserted that it had never entered

his mind to question the reality of external things. Further, after the

existence of real things affecting the senses had been transformed in

his mind from a basis of the investigation into an object of inquiry,

he endeavored to defend this assumption (which at first he had naïvely

borrowed from the realism of pre-scientific thought) by arguments, but

without any satisfactory result.[1]

[Footnote 1: The task of confirming the existence of things in themselves

changes under his hands into another, that of proving the existence of

external phenomena. "That external objects are real as representations"

Berkeley had never disputed.]

On the basis of the inseparability of sensibility and understanding the ideal of knowledge -- an extension of knowledge to be attained by a priori means (p. 333) -- experiences a remarkable addition in the position that the rational synthesis thus obtained must be a knowledge of reality, must be applied to matter given in intuition. To the question, "How are synthetic judgments a priori possible ?" is joined a second equally legitimate inquiry, "How do they become objectively valid, or applicable to objects of experience?" The principle from which their validity is proved--they are applicable to objects of experience because without them experience would not be possible , because they are conditions of experience --like the criterion of apriority (strict universality and necessity), is one of the noëtic assumptions of the critical theory.[1] [Footnote 1: Cf. Vaihinger, Kommentar, i. pp. 425-430.1 Inasmuch as its investigation relates to the conditions of experience the Kantian criticism follows a method which it itself terms transcendental . Heretofore, when the metaphysical method had been

adopted, the object had

been the suprasensible; and when knowledge had been made the object of

investigation, the method followed had been empirical, psychological. Kant

had the right to consider himself the creator of noëtics, for he showed it

the transcendental point of view. Knowledge is an object of experience, but

its conditions are not. The object is to explain knowledge, not merely to

describe it psychologically, -- to establish a new science of knowledge from principles, from pure reason. That which lies beyond experience is sealed from our thought; that which lies on this side of it is still uninvestigated, though capable and worthy of investigation, and in extreme need thereof. Criticism forbids the \_transcendent\_ use of reason (transcending experience); it permits, demands, and itself exercises the transcendental [1] use of it, which explains an experiential object, knowledge, from its conditions, which are not empirically given.

[Footnote A: Kant applies the term transcendental to the knowledge (the discovery, the proof) of the a priori factor and its relation to objects of experience. Unfortunately he often uses the same word not only to designate the a priori element itself, but also as a synonym for transcendent. In all three cases its opposite is empirical, namely, empirico-psychological investigation by observation in distinction from noëtical investigation from principles; empirical origin in distinction from an origin in pure reason, and empirical use in distinction from application beyond the limits of experience.

There is, apparently, a contradiction between the empiristic result of the Critique of Reason (the limitation of knowledge to objects of experience) and its rationalistic proofs (which proceed metaphysically, not empirically), and, in fact, a considerable degree of opposition really exists. Kant argues in a metaphysical way that there can be no metaphysics.

This contradiction is solved by the distinction which has been mentioned

between that which is beyond, and that which lies within, the boundary of

experience. That metaphysic is forbidden which on the objective side soars

beyond experience, but that pure rational knowledge is permissible and

necessary which develops from principles the grounds of experiential

knowledge existing in the subject. In the Kantian school, however, these

complementary elements, -- empirical result,

transcendental or metaphysical,

properly speaking, pro-physical method, --were divorced, and the one

emphasized, favored, and further developed at the expense of the other.

The empiricists hold to the result, while they either weaken or completely

misunderstand the rationalism of the method: the \_a priori\_ factor, says

Fries, was not reached by \_a priori\_, but by \_a posteriori\_, means, and

there is no other way by which it could have been reached. The constructive

thinkers, Fichte and his successors, adopt and continue the metaphysical

method, but reject the empirical result. Fichte's aim is directed to

a system of necessary, unconscious processes of reason, among which,

rejecting the thing in itself, he includes sensation. According to

Schelling nature itself is \_a priori\_, a condition of consciousness. This

discrepancy between foundation and result continues in an altered form even

among contemporary thinkers--as a discussion whether the "main purpose"

of Criticism is to be found in the limitation of knowledge to possible

experience, or the establishment of \_a priori\_ elements-though many, in

adherence to Kant's own view, maintain that the

metaphysics of knowledge and of phenomena (immanent rationalism) is the only legitimate metaphysics.

## %1. Theory of Knowledge.

intuitions or are

a priori .

(a) The Pure Intuitions (Transcendental Aesthetic).%--The first part of the Critique of Reason, the Transcendental Aesthetic, lays down the position that space and time are not independent existences, not real beings, and not properties or relations which would belong to things in themselves though they were not intuited, but forms of our intuition , which have their basis in the subjective constitution of our, the human, mind. If we separate from sensuous intuition all that the understanding thinks in it through its concepts, and all that belongs to sensation, these two forms of intuition remain, which may be termed pure intuitions, since they can be considered apart from all sensation. As subjective conditions (lying in the nature of the subject) through which alone a thing can become an object of intuition for us, they precede all empirical

Space and time are neither substantial receptacles which contain all

that is real nor orders inhering in things in themselves, but forms of

intuition. Now all our representations are either pure or empirical in

their origin, and either intuitive or conceptual in character. Kant

advances four proofs for the position that space and time are not empirical

and not concepts, but pure intuitions: (1) Time is not an empirical

concept which has been abstracted from experience. For the coexistence or

succession of phenomena, \_i.e.\_, their existence at the same time or at

different times (from which, as many believe, the representation of time

is abstracted), itself presupposes time--a coexistence or succession is

possible only in time. It is no less false that space is abstracted from

the empirical space relations of external phenomena, their existence

outside and beside one another, or in different places, for it is

impossible to represent relative situation except in space. Therefore

experience does not make space and time possible; but space and time first

of all make experience possible, the one outer, the other inner experience.

They are postulates of perception, not abstractions from it. (2) Time is a

necessary representation \_a priori\_. We can easily think all phenomena away

from it, but we cannot remove time itself in view of phenomena in general;

we can think time without phenomena, but not phenomena without time. The

same is true of space in reference to external objects. Both are conditions

of the possibility of phenomena. (3) Time is not a discursive or general

concept. For there is but one time. And different times do not precede the

one time as the constituent parts of which it is made up, but are mere

limitations of it; the part is possible only through the whole. In the same

way the various spaces are only parts of one and the same space, and can

be thought in it alone. But a representation which can be given only by

a single object is a particular representation or an intuition. Because,

therefore, of the oneness of space and time, the

representation of each

is an intuition. The \_a priori\_, immediate intuition of the one space is

entirely different from the empirical, general conception of space, which

is abstracted from the various spaces. (4) Determinate periods of time

arise by limitation of the one, fundamental time. Consequently this

original time must be unlimited or infinite, and the representation of it

must be an intuition, not a concept. Time contains in itself an endless

number of representations (its parts, times), but this is never the

case with a generic concept, which, indeed, is contained as a partial

representation in an endless number of representations (those of the

individuals having the same name), and, consequently, comprehends them all

under itself, but which never contains them in itself. The general concept

horse is contained in each particular representation of a horse as a

general characteristic, and that of justice in each representation of a

definite just act; time, however, is not contained in the different times,

but they are contained in it. Similarly the relation of infinite space to

the finite spaces is not the logical relation of a concept to examples of

it, but the intuitive relation of an unlimited whole to its limited parts.

The \_Prolegomena\_ employs as a fifth proof for the intuitive character of

space, an argument which had already appeared in the essay  $\_$ On the Ultimate

Ground of the Distinction of Positions in Space\_. There are certain spatial

distinctions which can be grasped by intuition alone, and which are

absolutely incapable of comprehension through the

understanding--for example, those of right and left, above and below, before and behind. No logical marks can be given for the distinction between the object and its image in the mirror, or between the right ear and the left. The complete description of a right hand must, in all respects (quality, proportionate position of parts, size of the whole), hold for the left as well; but, despite the complete similarity, the one hand cannot be exactly super-imposed on the other; the glove of the one cannot be worn on the other. This difference in direction, which has significance only when viewed from a definite point, and the impossibility mentioned of a congruence between an object (right hand) and its reflected image (left hand) can be understood only by intuition; they must be seen and felt, and cannot be made clear through concepts, and, consequently, can never be

In the "transcendental" exposition of space and time Kant follows this "metaphysical" exposition, which had to prove their nonempirical, and non-discursive, hence their a priori and intuitive, character, with the proof that only such an explanation of space and time could make it conceivable how synthetic cognitions a priori can arise from them. The principles of mathematics are of this kind. The synthetic character of geometrical truths is explained by the intuitive nature of space, their apodictic character by its apriority, and their objective reality or applicability to empirical objects by the fact that space is the condition

explained to a being which lacks the intuition of space.

of (external) perception. The like is true of arithmetic and time.

If space were a mere concept, no proposition could be derived from it which

should go beyond the concept and extend our knowledge of its properties.

The possibility of such extension or synthesis in mathematics depends on

the fact that spatial concepts can always be presented or "constructed" in

intuition. The geometrical axiom that in the triangle the sum of two sides

is greater than the third is derived from intuition, by describing the

triangle in imagination or, actually, on the board. Here the object is

given through the cognition and not before it.--If space and time were

empirical representations the knowledge obtained from them would lack

necessity, which, as a matter of fact, it possesses in a marked degree.

While experience teaches us only that something is thus or so, and not that

it could not be otherwise, the axioms, (space has only three dimensions,

time only one; only one straight line is possible between two points),

nay, all the propositions of mathematics are strictly universal and

apodictically certain: we are entirely relieved from the necessity of

measuring all triangles in the world in order to find out whether the sum

of their angles is equal to two right angles, and we do not need, as in the

case of judgments of experience, to add the limitation, so far as it is yet

known there are no exceptions to this rule. The apriority is the ratio

essendi\_ of the strict necessity involved in the "it must be so"  $\_(\text{des}$ 

Soseinmüssens\_), while the latter is the \_ratio cognoscendi of the former.

Now since the necessity of mathematical judgments can only be explained

through the ideality of space, this doctrine is perfectly certain, not

merely a probable hypothesis. -- The validity of mathematical principles for

all objects of perception, finally, is based on the fact that they are

rules under which alone experience is possible for us. It should be

mentioned, further, that the conceptions of change and motion (change of

place) are possible only through and in the representation of time. No

concept could make intelligible the possibility of change, that is, of the

connection of contradictory predicates in one and the same thing, but the

intuition of succession easily succeeds in accomplishing it.

The argument is followed by conclusions and explanations based upon it;

(1) Space is the form of the outer, time of the inner, sense. Through the

outer sense external objects are given to us, and through the inner sense

our own inner states. But since all representations, whether they have

external things for their objects or not, belong in themselves, as mental

determinations, to our inner state, time is the formal condition of all

phenomena in general, directly of internal (psychical) phenomena, and,

thereby, indirectly of external phenomena also. (2) The validity of the

relations of space and time cognizable \_a priori\_ is established for all

objects of possible experience, but is limited to these. They are valid

for  $\_$ all phenomena $\_$  (for all things which at any time may be given to our

senses), but only for these, not for things as they are \_in themselves\_.

They have "empirical reality, but, at the same time, transcendental

ideality." As external phenomena all things are beside one another in

space, and all phenomena whatever are in time and of necessity under

temporal relations; in regard to all things which can occur in our

experience, and in so far as they can occur, space and time are

objectively, therefore empirically, real. But they do not possess absolute

reality (neither subsistent reality nor the reality of inherence); for if

we abstract from our sensuous intuition both vanish, and, apart from the

subject (\_N.B.\_, the transcendental subject, concerning
which more below),

they are naught. It is only from man's point of view that we can speak

of space, and of extended, moveable, changeable things; for we can know

nothing concerning the intuitions of other thinking beings, we have no

means of discovering whether they are bound by the same conditions which

limit our intuitions, and which for us are universally valid. (3) Nothing

which is intuited in space is a thing in itself. What we call external

objects are nothing but mere representations of our sensibility, whose

true correlative, the \_thing in itself\_, cannot be known by ever so deep

penetration into the phenomenon; such properties as belong to things in

themselves can never be given to us through the senses. Similarly nothing

that is intuited in time is a thing in itself, so that we intuit ourselves

only as we appear to ourselves, and not as we are.

The merely empirical reality of space and time, the limitation of their validity to phenomena, leaves the certainty of knowledge

within the limits

of experience intact; for we are equally certain of it, whether these forms

necessarily belong to things in themselves, or only to our intuitions

of things. The assertion of their absolute reality, on the other hand,

involves us in sheer absurdities (that is, it necessitates the assumption

of two infinite nonentities which exist, but without being anything real,

merely in order to comprehend all reality, and on one of which even our own

existence would be dependent), in view of which the origin of so peculiar

a theory as the idealism of Berkeley appears intelligible. The critical

theory of space and time is so far from being identical with, or akin to,

the theory of Berkeley, that it furnishes the best and only defense against

the latter. If anyone assumes the absolute or transcendental reality of

these forms, it is impossible for him to prevent everything, including even

our own existence, from being changed thereby into mere illusion. But

the critical philosopher is far from degrading bodies to mere illusion;

external phenomena are just as real for him as internal phenomena, though

only as phenomena, it is true, as (possible) representations.

Phenomenon and illusion are not the same. The transcendental distinction

between phenomena and things in themselves must not be confused with the

distinction common to ordinary life and to physics, in accordance with

which we call the rainbow a mere appearance (better, illusion), but the

combination of sun and rain which gives rise to this illusion the thing

in itself, as that which in universal experience and in

all different

positions with respect to the senses, is thus and not otherwise determined

in intuition, or that which essentially belongs to the intuition of the

object, and is valid for every human sensibility (in antithesis to that

which only contingently belongs to it, and is valid only for a special

position or organization of this or that sense).

Similarly an object always

appears to grow smaller as its distance increases, while in itself it is

and remains of some fixed size. And this use of words is perfectly

correct, in the \_physical or empirical\_ sense of "in itself"; but in the

\_transcendental\_ sense the raindrops, also, together
with their form and

size, are themselves mere phenomena, the "in itself" of which remains

entirely unknown to us. Kant, moreover, does not wish to see the

subjectivity of the forms of intuition placed on a level with the

subjectivity of sensations or explained by this, though he accepts it as

a fact long established. The sensations of color, of tone, of temperature

are, no doubt, like the representation of space in that they belong only to

the subjective constitution of the sensibility, and can be attributed to

objects only in relation to our senses. But the great difference between

the two is that these sense qualities may be different in different persons

(the color of the rose may seem different to each eye), or may fail to

harmonize with any human sense; that they are not \_a priori\_ in the same

strict sense as space and time, and consequently afford no knowledge of the

objects of possible experience independently of perception; and that they

are connected with the phenomenon only as the contingently added effects of

a particular organization, while space, as the condition of external

objects, necessarily belongs to the phenomenon or intuition of them. It is

through space alone that it is possible for things to be external objects

for us\_. The subjectivity of sensation is individual, while that of space

and time is general or universal to mankind; the former is empirical,

individually different, and contingent, the latter \_a
priori and

necessary. Space alone, not sensation, is a \_conditio sine qua non\_ of

external perception. Space and time are the sole \_a priori\_ elements of

the sensibility; all other sensuous concepts, even motion and change,

presuppose perception; the movable in space and the succession of

properties in an existing thing are empirical data.

In confirmation of the theory that all objects of the senses are mere

phenomena, the fact is adduced that (with the exception of the will and the

feelings, which are not cognitions) nothing is given us through the senses

but representations of relations, while a thing in itself cannot be known

by mere relations. The phenomenon is a sum total of mere relations. In

regard to matter we know only extension, motion, and the laws of this

motion or forces (attraction, repulsion,

impenetrability), but all these

are merely relations of the thing to something, else, that is, external

relations. Where is the inner side which underlies this exterior, and

which belongs to the object in itself? This is never to be found in the

phenomenon, and no matter how far the observation and

analysis of nature

may advance (a work with unlimited horizons!) they reach
nothing but

portions of space occupied by matter and effects which matter exercises,

that is, nothing beyond that which is comparatively internal, and which,

in its turn, consists of external relations. The absolutely inner side

of matter is a mere fancy; and if the complaint that the "inner side" of

things is concealed from us is to mean that we do not comprehend what

the things which appear to us may be in themselves, it is unjust and

irrational, for it demands that we should be able to intuit without

senses, in other words, that we should be other than men. The transcendent

questions concerning the noumenon of things are unanswerable; we know

ourselves, even, only as phenomena! A phenomenon consists in nothing but

the relation of something in general to the senses.

It is indubitable \_that\_ something corresponds to phenomena, which,

by affecting our sensibility, occasions sensations in us, and thereby

phenomena. The very word, the very concept,
"phenomenon", indicates a

relation to something which is not phenomenon, to an object not dependent

on the sensibility. \_What\_ this may be continues hidden from us, for

knowledge is impossible without intuition. Things in themselves are

unknowable. Nevertheless the idea (it must be confessed, the entirely empty

idea) of this "transcendental object", as an indeterminate somewhat = x

which underlies phenomena, is not only allowable, but, as a limiting

concept, unavoidable in order to confine the pretensions of sense to the

only field which is accessible to it, that is, to the field of phenomena.

The inference "space and time are nothing but representations and

representations are in us, therefore space and time as well as all

phenomena in them, bodies with their forces and motions, are in us," does

not accurately express Kant's position, for he might justly reply that,

according to him, bodies as phenomena are in different parts in space from

that which we assign to ourselves, and thus without us; that space is the

form of external intuition, and through it external objects arise for us

from sensations; but that, in regard to the things in themselves which

affect us, we are entirely ignorant whether they are within or without us.

It can easily be shown by literal quotations that there were distinct

tendencies in Kant, especially in the first edition of his principal

work, toward a radical idealism which doubts or denies not merely the

cognizability, but also the existence of objects external to the subject

and its representations, and which degrades the thing in itself to a mere

thought in us, or completely does away with it (\_e.g.\_, "The representation

of an object as a thing in general is not only insufficient, but, ...

independently of empirical conditions, in itself contradictory "). But

these expressions indicate only a momentary inclination toward such a view,

not a binding avowal of it, and they are outweighed by those in which

idealism is more or less energetically rejected. That which according to

Kant \_exists outside the representation of the

individual is twofold: (1)

the unknown things in themselves with their

problematical characteristics,

as the ground of phenomena; (2) the phenomena "themselves" with their

knowable immanent laws, and their relations in space and time, as possible

representations. When I turn my glance away from the rose its redness

vanishes, since this predicate belongs to it only in so far and so long

as it acts in the light on my visual apparatus. What, then, is left? That

thing in itself, of course, which, when it appears to me, calls forth in me

the intuition of the rose. But there is still something else remaining--the

phenomenon of the rose, with its size, its form, and its motion in the

wind. For these are predicates which must be attributed to the phenomenon

itself as the object of my representation. If the rose, as determined in

space and time, vanished when I turned my head away, it could not, unless

intuited by a subject, experience or exert effects in space and time, could

not lose its leaves in the wind and strew the ground with its petals.

Perception and thought inform me not merely concerning events of which I am

a witness, but also of others which have occurred, or which will occur, in

my absence. The process of stripping the leaves from the rose has actually

taken place as a phenomenon and does not first become real by my subsequent

representation of it or inference to it. The things and events of the

phenomenal world exist both before and after my perception, and are

something distinct from my subjective and momentary representations of

them. The space and time, however, in which they exist and happen are

not furnished by the intuiting individual, but by the supra-individual,

\_transcendental consciousness\_ or generic reason of the race. The

phenomenon thus stands midway between its objective ground (the absolute

thing in itself) and the subject, whose common product it is, as a relative

thing in itself, as a reality which is independent of the contingent and

changing representation of the individual, empirical subject, which is

dependent for its form on the transcendental subject, and which is the only

reality accessible to us, yet entirely valid for us. The phenomenal world

is not a contingent and individual phenomenon, but one necessary for all

beings organized as we are, a phenomenon for humanity. My representations

are not the phenomena themselves, but images and signs through which  $\ensuremath{\mathsf{I}}$ 

cognize phenomena, \_i.e.\_, real things as they are for me and for every man

(not as they are in themselves). The reality of phenomena consists in the

fact that they can be perceived by men, and the objective validity of my

knowledge of them in the fact that every man must agree in it. The laws

which the understanding (not the individual

understanding!) imposes upon

nature hold for phenomena, because they hold for every man. Objectivity is

universal validity. If the world of phenomena which is intuited and known

by us wears a different appearance from the world of things in themselves,

this does not justify us in declaring it to be mere seeming and dreaming; a

dream which all dream together, and which all must dream, is not a dream,

but reality. As we must represent the world> so it is, though for us, of course, and not in itself.

Many places in Kant's works seem to argue against the intermediate position

here ascribed to the world of phenomena--according to which it is less than

things in themselves and more than subjective representation--which, since

they explain the phenomenon as a mere representation, leave room for only

two factors (on the one hand, the thing in itself = that
in the thing which

cannot be represented; on the other, the thing for me =
my representation

of the thing). In fact, the distinction between the phenomenon "itself"

and the representation which the individual now has of it and now does not

have, is far from being everywhere adhered to with desirable clearness; and

wherever it is impossible to substitute that which has been represented

and that which may be represented or possible intuitions for "mere

representations in me," we must acknowledge that there is a departure

from the standpoint which is assumed in some places with the greatest  $% \left( 1\right) =\left( 1\right) +\left( 1$ 

distinctness. The latter finds unequivocal expression, among other places,

in the "Analogies of Experience" and the "Deduction of the Pure Concepts

of the Understanding," § 2, No. 4 (first edition). The second of these

passages speaks of one and the same universal experience, in which all

perceptions are represented in thoroughgoing and regular connection, and of

the thoroughgoing affinity of phenomena as the basis of the possibility

of the association of representations. This affinity is ascribed to the

objects of the senses, not to the representations, whose association is

rather the result of the affinity, and not to the things in themselves, in

regard to which the understanding has no legislative power.

The relation between the thing in itself and the phenomenon is also

variable. Now they are regarded as entirely heterogeneous (that which can

never be intuited exists in a mode opposed to that of the intuited and

intuitable), and now as analogous to each other (non-intuitable properties

of the thing in itself correspond to the intuitable characteristics of the

phenomenon). The former is the case when it is said that phenomena are in

space and time, while things in themselves are not; that in the first of

these classes natural causation rules, and in the second freedom; that

in the one-conditioned existence alone is found, in the other

unconditioned.[1] But just as often things in themselves and phenomena are

conceived as similar to one another, as two sides of the same object,[2]

of which one, like the counter-earth of the Pythagoreans, always remains

turned away from us, while the other is turned toward us, but does not

reveal the true being of the object. According to this each particular

thing, state, relation, and event in the world of phenomena would have its

real counterpart in the noumenal sphere: un-extended roses in themselves

would lie back of extended roses, certain non-temporal processes back of

their growth and decay, intelligible relations back of their relations in

space. This is approximately the relation of the two conceptions as in part

taught by Lotze himself, in part represented by him as taught by Kant.

Herbart's principle, "So much seeming, so much indication of being" ( wie

viel Schein so viel Hindeutung aufs Sein\_), might also
be cited in

this connection. That which continually impelled Kant, in spite of his

proclamation of the unknowableness of things in themselves, to form ideas

about their character, was the moral interest, but this sometimes threw its

influence in favor of their commensurability with phenomena and sometimes

in the opposite scale. For in his ethics Kant needs the intelligible

character or man as noumenon, and must assume as many men in themselves (to

be consistent, then, in general, as many beings in themselves) as there are

in the world of phenomena. But for practical reasons, again, the causality

of the man in himself must be thought of as entirely different from, and

opposed to, the mechanical causality of the sense world. Kant's judgment

is, also, no more stable concerning the value of the knowledge of the  $\,$ 

suprasensible, which is denied to us. "I do not \_need\_ to know what

things in themselves may be, because a thing can never be presented to me

otherwise than as a phenomenon." And yet a natural and ineradicable need of

the reason to obtain some conviction in regard to the other world is said

to underlie the abortive attempts of metaphysics; and Kant himself uses

all his efforts to secure to the practical reason the satisfaction of this

need, though he has denied it to the speculative reason, and to make good

the gap in knowledge by faith. From the theoretical standpoint an extension

of knowledge beyond the limits of phenomena appears impossible, but

unnecessary; from the practical standpoint it is, to a certain extent,

possible and indispensable.

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[Footnote 1: Kant's conjectures concerning a common
ground of material and
mental phenomena, and those concerning the common root
of sensibility and
understanding, show the same tendency. On the one hand,
duality, on the
other, unity.]
[Footnote 2: "Phenomenon, which always has two sides,
the one when the
object in itself is considered (apart from the way in
which it is intuited,
and just because of which fact its character always
remains problematical),
the other when we regard the form of the intuition of
this object, which
must be sought not in the object in itself, but in the
subject to whom the
object appears, while it nevertheless actually and
necessarily belongs
to the phenomenon of this object ." "This predicate "--
sc ., spatial
quality, extension--"is attributed to things only in so
far as they
appear to us."]
There is, then, a threefold distinction to be made: (1)
Things in
themselves_, which can never be the object of our
knowledge, because our
forms of intuition are not valid for them. (2)
Phenomena , things for us,
nature or the totality of that which either is or, at
least, may be the
object of our knowledge (here belong the possible
inhabitants of the moon,
the magnetic matter which pervades all bodies, and the
forces of attraction
and repulsion, though the first have never been
observed, and the second is
not perceptible on account of the coarseness of our
senses, and the
last, because forces in general are not perceptible;
nature comprehends
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everything whose existence "is connected with our perceptions in a possible

experience"[1]). (3) \_Our representations\_ of phenomena,
\_i.e.\_, that of

the latter which actually enters into the consciousness of the empirical

individual. In the realm of things in themselves there is no motion

whatever, but at most an intelligible correlate of this relation; in the

world of phenomena, the world of physics, the earth moves around the sun;

in the sphere of representation the sun moves around the earth. It is true,

as has been said, that Kant sometimes ignores the distinction between

phenomena as related to noumena and phenomena as related to

representations; and, as a result of this, that the phenomenon is either

completely volatilized into the representation[2] or split up into an

objective half independent of us and a representative half dependent on us,

of which the former falls into the thing in itself,[3] while the latter is

resolved into subjective states of the ego.

[Footnote 1: "Nothing is actually given to us but the perception and the

empirical progress from this to other possible perceptions." "To call a

phenomenon a real thing antecedent to perception, means ... that in the

\_progress of experience\_ we must meet with such a perception."]

[Footnote 2: Phenomena "are altogether in me," "exist only in our

sensibility as a modification of it." "There is nothing in space but that

which is actually represented in it. Phenomena are "mere representations,

which, if they are not given in us (in perception)
nowhere exist."]

[Footnote 3: Here Kant is guilty of the fault which he himself has

censured, of confusing the physical and transcendental meanings of "in

itself." He forgets that the thing, if it is momentarily not intuited or

represented by me, and therefore is not immediately given for me as an

individual, is nevertheless still present for me as man, is mediately

given, that is, is discoverable by future search. That which is without

my present consciousness is not for this reason without all human

consciousness. In fact, Kant often overlooks the distinction between actual

and possible intuition, so that for him the "objects" of the latter slip

out of space and time and into the thing in itself. To the "transcendental

object we may ascribe the extent and connection of our possible

perceptions, and say that it is given in itself before all experience." In

it "the real things of the past are given."]

After the possibility and the legitimacy of synthetic judgments \_a

priori\_ have been proved for pure mathematics upon the basis of the

pure intuitions, there emerges, in the second place, the problem of the

possibility of \_a priori\_ syntheses in pure natural science, or the

question, Do pure concepts exist? And after this has been answered in the

affirmative, the further questions come up, Is the application of these,

first, to phenomena, and second, to things in themselves, possible and legitimate, and how far?

%(b) The Concepts and Principles of the Pure Understanding (Transcendental

Analytic).%--Sensations, in order to become "intuition" or the perception

of a phenomenon, needed to be ordered in space and time; in order to become

"experience" or a unified knowledge of objects, intuitions need a synthesis

through concepts. In order to objective knowledge the manifold of intuition

(already ordered by its arrangement in space and time) must be connected in

the unity of the concept. Sensibility gives the manifold to be connected,

the understanding the connecting unity. The former is able to intuit only,

the latter only to think; knowledge can arise only as the result of their

union. Intuitions depend on affections, concepts on functions, that is, on

unifying acts of the understanding.

To discover the pure forms of thought it is necessary to isolate the

understanding, just as an isolation of the sensibility was necessary above

in order to the discovery of the pure forms of intuition. We obtain the

elements of the pure knowledge of the understanding by rejecting all that

is intuitive and empirical. These elements must be pure, must be concepts,

further, not derivative or composite, but fundamental concepts, and their

number must be complete. This completeness is guaranteed only when the pure

concepts or \_categories\_ are sought according to some common principle,

which assigns to each its position in the connection of the whole, and

not (as with Aristotle) collected by occasional, unsystematic inquiries

undertaken at random. The table of the forms of judgment will serve as a

guide for the discovery of the categories. Thought is knowledge through

concepts; the understanding can make no other use of

concepts than to judge by means of them. Hence, since the understanding is the faculty of judging, the various kinds of connection in judgment must yield the various pure "connective-concepts" (\_Verknüpfungsbegriffe\_.--K. Fischer) or categories.

In regard to quantity, every judgment is universal, particular, or singular; in regard to quality, affirmative, negative, or infinite; in regard to relation, categorical, hypothetical, or disjunctive; and in regard to modality, problematical, assertory, or apodictic. To these twelve forms of judgment correspond as many categories, viz., I., Unity, Plurality, Totality; II., Reality, Negation, Limitation; III., Subsistence and Inherence (Substance and Accident), Causality and Dependence (Cause and Effect), Community (Reciprocity between the Active and the Passive); IV., Possibility--Impossibility, Existence--Nonexistence, Necessity--Contingency.

The first six of these fundamental concepts, which have no correlatives, constitute the mathematical, the second six, which appear in pairs, the dynamical categories. The former relate to objects of (pure or of empirical) intuition, the latter to the existence of these objects (in relation to one another or to the understanding). Although all other a priori division though concepts must be dichotomous, each of the four heads includes three categories, the third of which in each case arises from the combination of the second and first, [1] but, nevertheless, is an original (not a derivative) concept, since this

combination requires a

special \_actus\_ of the understanding. Universality or totality is plurality

regarded as unity, limitation is reality combined with negation, community

is the reciprocal causality of substances, and necessity is the actuality

given by possibility itself. Kant omits, as unnecessary here, the useful,

easy, and not unpleasant task of noting the great number of derivative

concepts \_a priori\_ (predicables) which spring from the combination of

these twelve original concepts (predicaments =
categories) with one

another, or with the modes of pure sensibility, -- the concepts force,

action, passion, would belong as subsumptions under causality, presence

and resistance under community, origin, extinction, and change under

modality,--since his object is not a system, but only
the principles of

one. His liking or even love for this division according to quantity,

quality, relation, and modality, which he always has ready as though it

were a universal key for philosophical problems, reveals a very strong

architectonic impulse, against which even his ever active skeptical

tendency is not able to keep up the battle.

[Footnote 1: Concerning this "neat observation," Kant remarked that it

might "perhaps have important consequences in regard to the scientific form

of all knowledge of reason." This prophecy was fulfilled, although in a

different sense from that which floated before his mind. Fichte and Hegel

composed their "thought-symphonies" in the three-four time given by Kant.]

In view of the derivation of the forms of thought from

the forms of

judgment Kant does not stop to give a detailed proof that the categories

are concepts, and that they are pure. Their discursive (not intuitive)

character is evident from the fact that their reference to the object is

mediate only (and not, as in the case of intuition, immediate), and their

\_a priori\_ origin, from the necessity which they carry with them, and which

would be impossible if their origin were empirical. Here Kant starts from

Hume's criticism of the idea of cause. The Scottish skeptic had said that

the necessary bond between cause and effect can neither be perceived nor

logically demonstrated; that, therefore, the relation of causality is an

idea which we--with what right?--add to perceived succession in time. This

doubt (without the hasty conclusions), says Kant, must be generalized, must

be extended to the category of substance (which had been already done by

Hume, pp. 226-7, though the author of the Critique of Reason was not aware

of the fact), and to all other pure concepts of the understanding. Then we

may hope to kindle a torch at the spark which Hume struck out. The problem

"It is impossible to see why, because something exists, something else must

necessarily exist," is the starting point alike of Hume's skepticism and

Kant's criticism. The former recognized that the principle of causality

is neither empirical nor analytic, and therefore concluded that it is an

invention of reason, which confuses subjective with objective necessity.

The latter shows that in spite of its subjective origin it has an objective

value; that it is a truth which is independent of all experience, and yet

valid for all who have experience, and for all that can be experienced.

Of the two questions, "How can the concepts which spring from our

understanding possess objective validity?" and, "How (through what means

or media) does their application to objects of experience take place?"

the first is answered in the Deduction of the Pure Concepts of the

Understanding, and the second in the chapter on their Schematism.

The \_Deduction\_, the most difficult portion of the Critique, shows that the

objective validity of the categories, as concepts of objects in general,

depends on the fact that \_through them alone experience\_ as far as regards

the form of thought \_is possible, \_i.e.\_, it is only through them that any

object whatever can be thought. All knowledge consists in judgments; all

judgments contain a connection of representations; all connection--whether

it be conscious or not, whether it relates to concepts or to pure or

empirical intuitions--is an \_act of the understanding\_;
it cannot be given

by objects, but only spontaneously performed by the subject itself. We

cannot represent anything as connected in the object unless we have

ourselves first connected it. The connection includes three conceptions:

that of the manifold to be connected (which is given by intuition), that

of the act of synthesis, and that of the unity; this last is two-fold,

an objective unity (the conception of an object in general in which the

manifold is united), and a subjective unity (the unity of consciousness

under which or, rather, through which the connection is

effected). The

categories represent the different kinds of combination, each one of these,

again, being completed in three stages, which are termed the Synthesis of

Apprehension in Intuition, the Synthesis of Reproduction in Imagination,

and the Synthesis of Recognition in Concepts. If I wish to think the time

from one noon to the next, I must (1) grasp (apprehend) the manifold

representations (portions of time) in succession; (2) retain or renew

(reproduce) in thought those which have preceded in passing to those which

follow; (3) be conscious that that which is now thought is the same

with that thought before, or know again (recognize) the reproduced

representation as the one previously experienced. If the mind did not

exercise such synthetic activity the manifold of representation would not

constitute a whole, would lack the unity which consciousness alone can

impart to it. Without this \_one\_ consciousness, concepts
and knowledge of

objects would be wholly impossible. The unity of pure self-consciousness

or of "transcendental apperception" is the postulate of all use of the

understanding. In the flux of internal phenomena there is no constant

or abiding self, but the unchangeable consciousness here demanded is a

precedent condition of all experience, and gives to phenomena a connection

according to laws which determine an object for intuition, i.e., the

conception of something in which they are necessarily connected.[1]

Reference to an object is nothing other than the necessary unity of

consciousness. The connective activity of the understanding, and with

it experience, is possible only through "the synthetic unity of pure

apperception," the "I think," which must be able to accompany all my

representations, and through which they first become mine.

[Footnote 1: Object is "that which opposes the random or arbitrary

determination of our cognitions," and which causes "them to be determined

in a certain way \_a priori\_."]

Experience (in the strict sense) is distinguished from perception

(experience in the wide sense) by its objectivity or universal validity. A

judgment of perception (the sun shines upon the stone and the stone becomes

warm) is only subjectively valid; while, on the other hand, a judgment of

experience (the sun warms the stone) aims to be valid not only for me and

my present condition, but always, for me and for everyone else. If the

former is to become the latter, an \_a priori\_ concept must be added to

the perception (in the above case, the concept of cause), under which the

perception is subsumed. The category determines the perceptions in view of

the form of the judgment, gives to the judgment its reference to an object,

and thus gives to the percepts, or rather, concepts (sunshine and warmth),

necessary and universally valid connection. The "reason why the judgments

of others" must "agree with mine" is "the unity of the object to which they

all relate, with which they agree, and hence must also all agree with one another."

Though the categories take their origin in the nature of the subject, they

are objective and valid for objects of experience, because experience is possible alone through them. They are not the product, but the ground of experience. The second difficulty concerns their applicability to phenomena, which are wholly disparate. By what means is the gulf between the categories, which are concepts and a priori, and perceptions, which are intuitous and empirical, bridged over? The connecting link is supplied by the imagination, as the faculty which mediates between sensibility and understanding to provide a concept with its image, and consists in the intuition of time, which, in common with the categories, has an a priori character, and, in common with perceptions, an intuitive character, so that it is at once pure and sensuous. The subsumption of phenomena or empirical intuitions under the category is effected through the Schemata [1] of the concepts of the understanding, \_i.e.\_, through \_a priori determinations of time according to rules, which relate to timeseries , time- content , time- order , and time- comprehension , and indicate whether I have to apply this or that category to a given object.

[Footnote 1: The schema is not an empirical image, but stands midway between this (the particular intuition of a definite triangle or dog) and the unintuitable concept, as a general intuition (of a triangle or a dog in general, which holds alike for right- and oblique-angled triangles, for poodles and pugs), or as a rule for determining our intuition in accordance with a concept.]

Each category has its own schema. The schema of quantity

is number, as

comprehending the successive addition of homogeneous parts. Filled time

(being in time) is the schema of reality, empty time (not-being in time)

the schema of negation, and more or less filled time (the intensity of

sensation, indicating the degree of reality) the schema of limitation.

Permanence in time is the sign for the application of the category of

substance; [1] regular succession, for the application of the concept of

cause; the coexistence of the determinations of one substance with those of

another, the signal for their subsumption under the concept of reciprocity.

The schemata of possibility, actuality, and necessity, finally, are

existence at any time whatever (whensoever), existence at a definite time,

and existence at all times. By such schematic syntheses the pure concept

is brought near to the empirical intuition, and the way is prepared for an

application of the former to the latter, or, what is the same thing, for

the subsumption of the latter under the former.

[Footnote 1: This determination is important for psychology. Since

the inner sense shows nothing constant, but everything in a continual

flux,--for the permanent subject of our thoughts is an
identical activity

of the understanding, not an intuitable object, -- the concept of substance

is not applicable to psychical phenomena.

Representations of a permanent

(material substances) exist, indeed, but not permanent representations. The

abiding self (ego, soul) which we posit back of internal phenomena is, as

the Dialectic will show, a mere Idea, which, or, rather, the object of

which, maybe "thought" as substance, it is true, but cannot be "given" in intuition, hence cannot be "known."

As a result of the fact that the schematism permits a presentation of the categories in time intuition antecedent to all experience, the possibility

is given of synthetic judgments \_a priori\_ concerning objects of possible

experience. Such judgments, in so far as they are not based on higher

and more general cognitions, are termed "principles," and the system of

them--to be given, with the table of the categories as a guide, in

the \_Analytic of Principles\_ or the Doctrine of the Faculty of

Judgment--furnishes the outlines of "pure natural science." When thus

the rules of the subsumption to be effected have been found in the pure

concepts, and the conditions and criteria of the subsumption in the

schemata, it remains to indicate the principles which the understanding,

through the aid of the schemata, actually produces \_a priori\_ from its concepts.

The principle of quantity is the \_Axiom of Intuition\_, the principle of

quality the \_Anticipation of Perception\_; the principles of relation

are termed \_Analogies of Experience\_, those of modality Postulates

of Empirical Thought in General\_. The first runs, "All intuitions are

extensive quantities"; the second, "In all phenomena sensation, and the

real which corresponds to it in the object, has an intensive quantity,

i.e., a degree. The principle of the "Analogies" is, "All phenomena, as

far as their existence is concerned, are subject \_a

priori to rules, determining their mutual relation in time" (in the second edition this is stated as follows: "Experience is possible only through the representation of a necessary connection of perceptions"). As there are three modes of time, there result three "Analogies," the principles of permanence, of succession (production), and of coexistence. These are: (1) "In all changes of phenomena the substance is permanent, and its quantum is neither increased nor diminished in nature." (2) "All changes take place according to the law of connection between cause and effect"; or, "Everything that happens (begins to be) presupposes something on which it follows according to a rule." (3) "All substances, in so far as they are coexistent, stand in complete community, that is, reciprocity, one to another." And, finally, the three "Postulates": "That which agrees with the formal conditions of experience (in intuition and in concepts) is possible," "That which is connected with the material conditions of experience (sensation) is actual" (perception is the only criterion of actuality). "That which, in its connection with the actual, is determined by universal conditions of experience, is (exists as) necessary."

As the categories of substance and causality are specially preferred to the others by Kant and the Kantians, and are even proclaimed by some as the only fundamental concepts, so also the principles of relation have an established reputation for special importance. The leading ideas in the proofs of the "Analogies of Experience"--for in spite of their underivative

character the principles require, and are capable of, proof--may next be noted.

The time determinations of phenomena, the knowledge of their duration,

their succession, and their coexistence, form an indispensable part of our

experience, not only of scientific experience, but of everyday experience

as well. How is the objective time-determination of things and events

possible? If the matter in hand is the determination of the particulars of

a fight with a bloody ending, the witnesses are questioned and testify:

We heard and saw how A began the quarrel by insulting B, and the latter

answered the insult with a blow, whereupon A drew his knife and wounded his

opponent. Here the succession of perceptions on the part of the persons

present is accepted as a true reproduction of the succession of the actual

events. But the succession of perceptions is not always the sure indication

of an actual succession: the trees along an avenue are perceived one after

the other, while they are in reality coexistent. We might now propose the

following statement: The representation of the manifold of phenomena is

always successive, I apprehend one part after another. I can decide whether

these parts succeed one another in the object also, or whether they

are coexistent, by the fact that, in the second case, the series of

my perceptions is reversible, while in the first it is not. I can, if  ${\tt I}$ 

choose, direct my glance along the avenue in such a way that I shall begin

the second time with the tree at which I left off the first time; if I wish

to assure myself that the parts of a house are

coexistent, I cause my eye

to wander from the upper to the lower portions, from the right side to the

left, and then to perform the same motions in the opposite direction. On

the other hand, it is not left to my choice to hear the thunder either

before or after I see the lightning, or to see a passing wagon now here,

now there, but in these cases I am bound in the succession of my sensuous

representations. The possibility of interchange in the series of

perceptions proves an objective coexistence, the impossibility of this,

an objective succession. But this criterion is limited to the immediate

present, and fails us when a time relation between unobserved phenomena is

to be established. If I go at evening into the dining room and see a vessel

of bubbling water, which is to be used in making tea, over a burning spirit

lamp, whence do I derive the knowledge that the water began, and could

begin, to boil only after the alcohol had been lighted, and not before?

Because I have often seen the flame precede the boiling of the water, and

in this the irreversibility of the two perceptions has guaranteed to me the

succession of the events perceived? Then I may only assume that it is very

probable, not that it is certain, that in this case also the order of the

two events has been the same as I have observed several times before. As a

matter of fact, however, we all assert that the water could not have come

into a boiling condition unless the generation of heat had preceded; that

in every case the fire must be there before the boiling of the water can

commence. Whence do we derive this \_must\_? Simply and alone from the

thought of a causal connection between the two events. Every phenomenon

\_must\_ follow in time that phenomenon of which it is the effect, and must

precede that of which it is the cause. It is through the relation of

causality, and through this alone, that the objective time relation of

phenomena is determined. If nothing preceded an event on which it must

follow according to a rule,[1] then all succession in perception would be

subjective merely, and nothing whatever would be objectively determined by

it as to what was the antecedent and what the consequent in the phenomenon

itself. We should then have a mere play of representations without

significance for the real succession of events. Only the thought of a rule,

according to which the antecedent state contains the necessary condition of

the consequent state, justifies us in transferring the time order of our

representations to phenomena.[2] Nay, even the distinction between

the phenomenon itself, as the object of our representations, and our

representations of it, is effected only by subjecting the phenomenon to

this rule, which assigns to it its definite position in time after another

phenomenon by which it is caused, and thus forbids the inversion of the

perceptions. We can derive the rule of the understanding which produces the

objective time order of the manifold from experience, only because we have

put it into experience, and have first brought experience into being by

means of the rule. We recapitulate in Kant's own words: The objective

(time) relation of phenomena remains undetermined by mere perception (the

mere succession in my apprehension, if it is not

determined by means of a

rule in relation to an antecedent, does not guarantee any succession in

the object). In order that this may be known as determined, the relation

between the two states must be so conceived (through the understanding's

concept of causality) that it is thereby determined with necessity which of

them must be taken as coming first, and which second, and not conversely.

Thus it is only by subjecting the succession of phenomena to the law of

causality that empirical knowledge of them is possible. Without the concept

of cause no objective time determination, and hence, without it, no experience.

[Footnote 1: "A reality following on an empty time, that is, a beginning of existence preceded by no state of things, can as little be apprehended as empty time itself."]

[Footnote 2: "If phenomena were things in themselves no one would be able, from the succession of the representations of their manifold, to tell how

this is connected in the object."]

That which the relation of cause and effect does for the succession[1] of

phenomena, the relation of reciprocity does for their coexistence, and that

of substance and accident for their duration. Since absolute time is not an

object of perception, the position of phenomena in time cannot be directly

determined, but only through a concept of the understanding. When I

conclude that two objects (the earth and the moon) must be coexistent,

because perceptions of them can follow upon one another in both ways, I

do this on the presupposition that the objects themselves reciprocally determine their position in time, hence are not isolated, but stand in causal community or a relation of reciprocal influence. It is only on the condition of reciprocity between phenomena, through which they form a whole, that I can represent them as coexistent.

[Footnote 1: Against the objection that cause and effect are frequently, indeed in most cases, simultaneous (\_e.g.\_ the heated stove and the warmth of the room), Kant remarks that the question concerns the order of time merely, and not the lapse of time. The ball lying on a soft cushion is simultaneous, it is true, with its effect, the depression in the cushion. "But I, nevertheless, distinguish the two by the time relation of dynamical connection. For if I place the ball on the cushion, its previously smooth surface is followed by a depression, but if there is a depression in the

Coexistence and succession can be represented only in a permanent

substratum; they are merely the modes in which the permanent exists. Since

cushion (I know not whence) a leaden ball does not

follow from it."]

time (in which all change takes place, but which itself abides and does not

change) in itself cannot be perceived, the substratum of simultaneity and

succession must exist in phenomena themselves: the permanent in relation

to which alone all the time relations of phenomena can be determined, is

substance; that which alters is its determinations, accidents, or special

modes of existing. Alteration, \_i.e.\_, origin and extinction, is true of

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states only, which can begin and cease to be, and not of substances, which
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change (\_sich verändern\_), i.e., pass from one mode of existence into

another, but do not alter (\_wechseln\_), i.e., pass from non-existence into

existence, or the reverse. It is the permanent alone that changes, and

its states alone that begin and cease to be. The origin and extinction of

substances, or the increase and diminution of their quantum, would remove

the sole condition of the empirical unity of time; for the time relations

of the coexistent and the successive can be perceived only in an identical

substratum, in a permanent, which exists always. The law "From nothing

nothing comes, and nothing can return to nothing," is everywhere assumed

and has been frequently advanced, but never yet proved, for, indeed, it is

impossible to prove it dogmatically. Here the only possible proof for it,

the critical proof, is given: the principle of permanence is a necessary

condition of experience. The same argument establishes the principle of

sufficient reason, and the principle of the community of substances,

together with the unity of the world to be inferred from this. The three

Analogies together assert: "All phenomena exist in one nature and must so

exist, because without such a unity \_a priori\_ no unity of experience,

and therefore no determination of objects in experience, would be

possible."--In connection with the Postulates the same transcendental proof

is given for a series of other laws of nature \_a priori\_, viz., that in the

course of the changes in the world--for the causal principle holds only for

effects in nature, not for the existence of things as

substances--there

can be neither blind chance nor a blind necessity (but only a conditional,

hence an intelligible, necessity); and, further, that in the series of

phenomena, there can be neither leap, nor gap, nor break, and hence no

void--\_in mundo non datur casus, non datur fatum, non
datur saltus, non
datur hiatus .

While the dynamical principles have to do with the relation of phenomena,

whether it be to one another (Analogies), or to our faculty of cognition

(Postulates), the mathematical relate to the quantity of intuitions and

sensations, and furnish the basis for the application of mathematics

to natural science.[1] An extensive quantity is one in which the

representation of the parts makes the representation of the whole possible,

and so precedes it. I cannot represent a line without drawing it in

thought, i.e., without producing all parts of it one after the other,

starting from a point. All phenomena are intuited as aggregates or as

collections of previously given parts. That which geometry asserts of

pure intuition (i.e., the infinite divisibility of lines) holds also of

empirical intuition. An intensive quantity is one which is apprehended only

as unity, and in which plurality can be represented only by approximation

to negation = 0. Every sensation, consequently every reality in phenomena,

has a degree, which, however small it may be, is never the smallest, but

can always be still more diminished; and between reality and negation there

exists a continuous connection of possible smaller intermediate sensations,

or an infinite series of ever decreasing degrees. The property of

quantities, according to which no part in them is the smallest possible

part, and no part is simple, is termed their continuity. All phenomena

are continuous quantities, i.e., all their parts are in turn (further

divisible) quantities. Hence it follows, first, that a proof for an empty

space or empty time can never be drawn from experience, and secondly, that

all change is also continuous. "It is remarkable," so Kant ends his proof

of the Anticipation, "that of quantities in general we can know one

\_quality\_ only \_a priori\_, namely, their continuity,
while with regard to

quality (the real of phenomena) nothing is known to us \_a priori\_ but their

intensive \_quantity\_, that is, that they must have a
degree. Everything

else is left to experience."

[Footnote 1: In each particular science of nature, science proper (i.e.,

apodictically certain science) is found only to the extent in which

mathematics can be applied therein. For this reason chemistry can never

be anything more than a systematic art or experimental doctrine; and

psychology not even this, but only a natural history of the inner sense or

natural description of the soul. That which Kant's Metaphysical Elements

of Natural Science\_, 1786--in four chapters, Phoronomy, Dynamics,

Mechanics, and Phenomenology--advances as pure physics or the metaphysics

of corporeal nature, is a doctrine of motion. The fundamental determination

of matter (of a somewhat which is to be the object of the external senses)

is motion, for it is only through motion that these

senses can be affected,

and the understanding itself reduces all other predicates of matter to

this. The second and most valuable part of the work defines matter as the

movable, that which fills space by its moving force, and recognizes two

original forces, repulsive, expansive superficial force or force of

contact, by which a body resists the entrance of other bodies into its own

space, and attractive, penetrative force or the force which works at a

distance, in virtue of which all particles of matter attract one another.

In order to a determinate filling of space the cooperation of both

fundamental forces is required. In opposition to the mechanical theory of

the atomists, which explains forces from matter and makes them inhere in

it, Kant holds fast to the dynamical view which he had early adopted (cf.

p. 324), according to which forces are the primary
factor and matter is
constituted by them.]

The outcome of the Analytic of Principles sounds bold enough. \_The

understanding is the lawgiver of nature\_: "It does not
draw its laws \_a

priori\_ from nature, but prescribes them to it"; the
principles of the pure

understanding are the most universal laws of nature, the empirical laws of

nature only particular determinations of these. All order and regularity

take their origin in the spirit, and are put into objects by this.

Universal and necessary knowledge remained inexplicable so long as it was

assumed that the understanding must conform itself to objects; it is at

once explained if, conversely, we make objects conform themselves to the

understanding. This is a reversal of philosophical opinion which may justly

be compared to the Copernican revolution in astronomy; it is just as

paradoxical as the latter, but just as incontestably true, and just as rich

in results. The sequel will show that this strangely sounding principle,

that things conform themselves to our representations and the laws of

nature are dependent on the understanding, is calculated to make us humble

rather than proud. Our understanding is lawgiver within the limits of its

knowledge, no doubt, but it knows only within the limits of its legislative

authority; nature, to which it dictates laws, is nothing but a totality of

phenomena; beyond the limits of the phenomenal, where its commands become

of no effect, its wishes also find no hearing.

In the second edition the Analytic of Principles contains as a supplement a

"Refutation of Idealism," which, in opposition to Descartes's position that

the only immediate experience is inner experience, from which we reach

outer experience by inference alone, argues that, conversely, it is only

through outer experience, which is immediate experience proper, that inner

experience--as the consciousness of my own existence in time--is possible.

For all time determination presupposes something permanent in perception,

and this permanent something cannot be in me (the mere representation of an

external thing), but only actually existing things which I perceive without

me. There is, further, a chapter on the "Ground of the Distinction of all

Objects in general into Phenomena and Noumena," with an appendix on the

Amphiboly (ambiguity) of the Concepts of Reflection. The

latter shows that the concepts of comparison: identity and difference, agreement and opposition, the internal and the external, matter and form, acquire entirely different meanings when they relate to phenomena and to things in themselves (in other words, to things in their relation to the sensibility, and in relation to the understanding merely); and further, in a criticism of the philosophy of Leibnitz, reproaches him with having intellectualized phenomena, while Locke is said to have sensationalized the concepts of the understanding.

The chapter on the distinction between phenomena and noumena very much lessens the hopes, aroused, perchance, by the establishment of the non-empirical origin of the categories, for an application of these not confined to any experience. Although the categories, that is, are in their origin entirely independent of all experience (so much so that they first make experience possible), they are yet confined in their application within the bounds of possible experience. They "serve only to spell phenomena, that we may be able to read them as experience," and when applied to things in themselves lose all significance.[1] Similarly the principles which spring from them are "nothing more than principles of possible experience," and can be referred to phenomena alone, beyond which they are arbitrary combinations without objective reality. Things in themselves may be thought, but they can never be known; for knowledge, besides the empty thought of an object, implies intuitions which must be

subsumed under it or by which the object must be determined. In themselves

the pure concepts relate to all that is thinkable, not merely to that which

can be experienced, but the schemata, which assures their applicability in

the field of experience, at the same time limit them to this sphere. The

schematism makes the immanent use of the categories, and thus a metaphysics

of phenomena, possible, but the transcendent use of them, and consequently

the metaphysics of the suprasensible, impossible. The case would be

different if our intuition were intellectual instead of sensuous, or,

which is the same thing, if our understanding were intuitive instead of

discursive; then the objects which we think would not need to be given us

from another source (through sensuous intuition), but would be themselves

produced in the act by which we thought them. The divine spirit may be such

an archetypal, creative understanding (\_intellectus
archetypus\_), which

generates objects by its thought; the human spirit is not such, and

therefore is confined, with its knowledge, within the circle of possible

perception. -- The conception of "intellectual intuition" leads to a

distinction in regard to things in themselves: in its negative meaning

noumenon denotes a thing in so far as it is \_not\_ the object of our

\_sensuous\_ intuition, in its positive meaning a thing which is the

object of a \_non-sensuous\_ intuition. The positive thing in itself is a

problematical concept; its possibility depends on the existence of an

intuitive understanding, something about which we are ignorant. The

negative thing in itself cannot be known, indeed, but it

can be thought;

and the representation of it is a possible concept, one which is not

self-contradictory[2] (a principle which is of great importance for

practical philosophy). Still further, it is an indispensable concept, which

shows that the boundary where our intuition ends is not the boundary of

the thinkable as well; and even if it affords no positive extension of

knowledge[3] it is, nevertheless, very useful, since it
sets bounds to the

use of the understanding, and thus, as it were, negatively extends our

knowledge. That which lies beyond the boundary, the "how are they possible"

\_(Wiemöglichkeit)\_ of things in themselves is shrouded in darkness, but the

boundary itself, \_i.e.\_, the "that they are possible"
 (Dassmöglichkeit) ,

of things in themselves, and the unknowableness of their nature, belongs to

that which is within the boundary and lies in the light. In this way Kant

believed that the categories of causality and substance might be applied to

the relation of things in themselves to phenomena without offending against

the prohibition of their transcendent use, since here the boundary appeared

only to be touched, and not overstepped.

[Footnote 1: "A pure use of the categories is no doubt possible, that is,

not self-contradictory, but it has no kind of objective validity, because

it refers to no intuition to which it is meant to impart the unity of an

object. The categories remain forever mere functions of thought by which no

object can be given to me, but by which I can only think whatever may

be given to me in intuition" (\_Critique of Pure Reason\_, Max Müller's

translation, vol. ii. p. 220). Without the condition of sensuous intuition,

for which they supply the synthesis, the categories have no relation to any

definite object; for without this condition they contain nothing but the

logical function, or the form of the concept, by means of which alone

nothing can be known and distinguished as to any object belonging to it

(\_Ibid\_., pp. 213, 214).]

[Footnote 2: The thing in itself denotes the object in so far as it can

be thought by us, but not intuited, and consequently not determined by

intuitions, \_i.e.\_, cannot be known. It is only through the schematism

that the categories are limited to phenomena. O.

Liebmann ( Kant und die

Epigonen\_, p. 27, and \_passim\_) overlooks or ignores
this when he says:

Kant here allows himself to "recognize an object emancipated from the

forms of knowledge, therefore an irrational object,
\_i.e.\_, to represent

something which is not representable--wooden iron." The thing in itself is

insensible, but not irrational, and the forms of intuition and forms of

thought joined by Liebmann under the title forms of knowledge have in Kant

a by no means equal rank.]

[Footnote 3: A category by itself, freed from all conditions of intuition

(\_e.g.\_, the representation of a substance which is thought without

permanence in time, or of a cause which should not act in time), can yield

no definite concept of an object.]

Though the concepts of the understanding possess a cognitive value in the sphere of phenomena alone, the hope still remains of

gaining an entrance

into the suprasensible sphere through the concepts of reason. It is

indubitable that our spirit is conscious of a far higher need than that for

the mere connection of phenomena into experience; it is that which cannot

be experienced, the Ideas God, freedom, and immortality, which form the

real end of its inquiry. Can this need be satisfied, and how? Can this end

be attained, and reality be given to the Ideas? This is the third question

of the Critique of Reason.

## %(c) The Reason's Ideas of the Unconditioned (Transcendental

Dialectic).%--"All our knowledge begins with the senses, proceeds thence to

the understanding, and ends with reason." The understanding is the

faculty of rules, reason the faculty of principles. The categories of the

understanding are necessary concepts which make experience possible, and

which, therefore, can always be given in experience; the Ideas of reason

are necessary concepts to which no corresponding object can be given. Each

of the Ideas gives expression to an unconditioned. How does the concept of

the unconditioned arise, and what service does it perform for knowledge?

As perceptions are connected by the categories in the unity of the

understanding, and thus are elevated into experience, so the manifold

knowledge of experience needs a higher unity, the unity of reason, in order

to form a connected system. This is supplied to it by the Ideas--which,

consequently, do not relate directly to the objects of intuition, but only

to the understanding and its judgments -- in order,

through the concept

of the unconditioned, to give completion to the knowledge of the

understanding, which always moves in the sphere of the conditioned, i.e.,

to give it the greatest possible unity together with the greatest possible

extension. The concept of the absolute grows out of the logical task which

is incumbent on reason, \_i.e.\_, inference, and it may be best explained

from this as a starting point. In the syllogism the judgment asserted in

the conclusion is derived from a general rule, the major premise. The

validity of this general proposition is, however, itself conditional,

dependent on higher conditions. Then, as reason seeks the condition for

each conditioned moment, and always commands a further advance in

the series of conditions, it acts under the Idea of \_the totality

of conditions\_, which, nevertheless, since it can never be given in

experience, does not denote an object, but only an heuristic maxim for

knowledge, the maxim, namely, never to stop with any one condition as

ultimate, but always to continue the search further. The Idea of the

unconditioned or of the completeness of conditions is a goal which we never

attain, but which we are continually to approach. The categories and the

principles of the understanding were \_constitutive\_ principles, the Ideas

are \_regulative\_ merely; their function is to guide the understanding, to

give it a direction helpful for the connection of knowledge, not to inform

it concerning the actual character of things.

Since reason is the faculty of inference (as the understanding was found to

be the faculty of judgment), the forms of the syllogism perform the same

service for us in our search for the Ideas as the forms of judgment in

the discovery of the categories. To the categorical, hypothetical, and

disjunctive syllogisms correspond the three concepts of reason, the soul or

the thinking subject, the world or the totality of phenomena, and God, the

original being or the supreme condition of the possibility of all that can

be thought. By means of these we refer all inner phenomena to the ego as

their (unknown) common subject, think all beings and events in nature as

ordered under the comprehensive system of the (never to be experienced)

universe, and regard all things as the work of a supreme (unknowable)

intelligence. These Ideas are necessary concepts; not accidental products

nor mere fancies, but concepts sprung from the nature of reason; their

use is legitimate so long as we remember that we can have a problematical

concept of objects corresponding to them, but no knowledge of these; that

they are problems and rules for knowledge, never objects and instruments of

it. Nevertheless the temptation to regard these regulative principles as

constitutive and these problems as knowable objects is almost irresistible;

for the ground of the involuntary confusion of the required with the given

absolute lies not so much in the carelessness of the individual as in the

nature of our cognitive faculty. The Ideas carry with them an unavoidable

illusion of objective reality, and the sophistical inferences which spring

from them are not sophistications of men, but of pure reason itself, are

natural misunderstandings from which even the wisest

cannot free himself.

At best we can succeed in avoiding the error, not in doing away with the

transcendental illusion from which it proceeds. We can see through the

illusion and avoid the erroneous conclusions built upon it, not shake off the illusion itself.

On this erroneous objective use of the Ideas three socalled sciences are

based: speculative psychology, speculative cosmology, and speculative

theology, which, together with ontology, constitute the stately structure

of the (Wolffian) metaphysics. The Critique of Reason completes its work

of destruction when, as Dialectic (Logic cf. Illusion), it follows the

refutation of dogmatic ontology--developed in the Analytic--which

believed that it knew things in themselves through the concepts of

the understanding, with a refutation of rational psychology, rational

cosmology, and rational theology. It shows that the first is founded on

paralogisms, and the second entangled in irreconcilable contradictions,

while the third makes vain efforts to prove the existence of the Supreme Being.

(i) \_The Paralogisms of Rational Psychology\_. The transcendental

self-consciousness or pure ego which accompanies and connects all my

representations, the subject of all judgments which I form, is, as the

Analytic recognized, the presupposition of all knowing (pp. 358-359), but

as such it can never become an object of knowledge. We must not make

a given object out of the subject which never can be a predicate, nor

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substitute a real thinking substance for the logical
subject of thought,
nor revamp the unity of self-consciousness into the
simplicity and
identical personality of the soul. The rational
psychology of the Wolffian
school is guilty of this error, and whatever of proof it
advances for the
substantiality, simplicity, and personality of the soul,
and, by way
of deduction, for its immateriality and immortality as
well as for its
relation to the body, is based upon this substitution,
this ambiguity of
the middle term, and therefore upon a quaternio
terminorum ,--all its
conclusions are fallacious. It is allowable and
unavoidable to add in
thought an absolute subject, the unity of the ego, to
inner phenomena;[1]
it is inadmissible to treat the Idea of the soul as a
knowable thing. In
order to be able to apply the category of substance to
it, we would have to
lay hold of a permanent in intuition such as cannot be
found in the inner
sense. Empirical psychology, then, alone remains for the
extension of our
knowledge of mental life, while rational psychology
shrivels up from
a doctrine into a mere discipline, which watches that
the limits of
experience are not overstepped. But even as a mere
limiting determination
it has great value. For, along with the hope of proving
the immateriality
and immortality of the soul, the fear of seeing them
disproved is also
dissipated; materialism is just as unfounded as
spiritualism, and if the
conclusions of the latter concerning the soul as a
simple, immaterial
substance which survives the death of the body, cannot
be proved, yet we
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need not, for that reason, regard them as erroneous, for

the opposite is as little susceptible of demonstration. The whole question belongs not in the forum of knowledge, but in the forum of faith, and that which we gain by the proof that nothing can be determined concerning it by theoretical reasoning (viz., assurance against materialistic objections) is far more

valuable than what we lose.

[Footnote 1: The rational concept of the soul as a simple, independent intelligence does not signify an actual being, but only expresses certain

principles of systematic unity in the explanation of psychical phenomena,

viz., "To regard all determinations as existing in one subject, all powers,

as far as possible, as derived from, one fundamental power, all change

as belonging to the states of one and the same permanent being, and

to represent all phenomena in space as totally distinct from acts of thought."

(2) \_The Antinomies of Rational Cosmology\_. If in its endeavor to spin

metaphysical knowledge concerning the nature of the spirit and the

existence of the soul after death out of the concept of the thinking ego

the reason falls into the snare of an ambiguous \_terminus medius\_, the

difficulties which frustrate its attempts to use the Idea of the world

in the extension of its knowledge \_a priori\_ are of quite a different

character. Here the formal correctness of the method of inference is not

open to attack. It may be proved with absolute strictness (and in the

apagogical or indirect form, from the impossibility of the contrary) that

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the world has a beginning in time, and also that it is
limited in space;
that every compound substance consists of simple
parts; that, besides the
causality according to the laws of nature, there is a
causality through
freedom , and that an absolutely necessary Being
exists, either as a
part of the world or as the cause of it. But the
contrary may be proved
with equal stringency (and indirectly, as before): The
world is infinite in
space and time; there is nothing simple in the world;
there is no freedom,
but everything in the world takes place entirely
according to the laws of
nature; and there exists no absolutely necessary Being
either within the
world or without it. This is the famous doctrine of the
conflict of the
four cosmological theses and antitheses or of the
Antinomy of Pure Reason,
the discovery of which indubitably exercised a
determining influence upon
the whole course of the Kantian Critique of Reason, and
which forms one of
its poles. The transcendental idealism, the distinction
between phenomena
and noumena, and the limitation of knowledge to
phenomena, all receive
significant confirmation from the Antithetic. Without
the critical
idealism (that which is intuited in space and time, and
known through
the categories, is merely the phenomenon of things,
whose "in itself" is
unknowable), the antinomies would be insoluble. How is
reason to act in
view of the conflict? The grounds for the antitheses are
just as conclusive
as those for the theses; on neither side is there a
preponderance which
could decide the result. Ought reason to agree with both
parties or with
neither?
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The solution distinguishes the first two antinomies, as the mathematical,

from the second two, as the dynamical antinomies; in the former, since it

is a question of the composition and division of quanta, the conditions may

be homogeneous with the conditioned, in the latter, heterogeneous. In the

former, thesis and antithesis are alike \_false\_, since both start from

the inadmissible assumption that the universe (the complete series of

phenomena) is given, while in fact it is only required of us (is an Idea).

The world does not exist in itself, but only in the empirical regress of

phenomenal conditions, in which we never can reach infinity and never the

limitation of the world by an empty space or an antecedent empty time, for

infinite space, like empty space (and the same holds in regard to time), is

not perceivable. Consequently the quantity of the world is neither finite

nor infinite. The question of the quantity of the world is unanswerable,

because the concept of a sense-world existing by itself \_(before\_ the

regress) is self-contradictory. Similarly the problem whether the composite

consists of simple elements is insoluble, because the assumption that

the phenomenon of body is a thing in itself, which, antecedent to all

experience, contains all the parts that can be reached in experience--in

other words, that representations exist outside of the representative

faculty--is absurd. Matter is infinitely divisible, no doubt, yet it does

not consist of infinitely numerous parts, and just as little of a definite

number of simple parts, but the parts exist merely in the representation

of them, in the division (decomposition), and this goes as far as possible

experience extends. The case is different with the dynamical antinomies,

where thesis and antithesis can both be \_true\_, in so far as the former

is referred to things in themselves and the latter to phenomena. The

contradiction vanishes if we take that which the thesis asserts and the

antithesis denies in different senses. The fact that in the world of

phenomena the causal nexus proceeds without interruption and without end,

so that there is no room in it either for an absolutely necessary Being or

for freedom, does not conflict with this other, that beyond the world of

sense there may exist an omnipotent, omniscient cause of the world, and an

intelligible freedom as the ground of our empirically necessary actions.

"May exist," since for the critical philosopher, who has learned that every

extension of knowledge beyond the limits of experience is impossible, the

question can concern only the conceivability of the world-ground and of

freedom. This possibility is amply sufficient to give a support for faith,

as, on the other hand, it is indispensable in order to satisfy at once the

demands of the understanding and of reason, especially to satisfy their

practical interests. For if it were not possible to resolve the apparent

contradiction, and to show its members capable of reconciliation, it would

be all over either with the possibility of experiential knowledge or with

the basis of ethics and religion. Without unbroken causal connection, no

nature; without freedom, no morality; and without a Deity, no religion.

Of special interest is the solution of the third

antinomy, which is

accomplished by means of the valuable (though in the form in which it is

given by Kant, untenable) conception of the \_intelligible character\_.[1]

Man is a citizen of two worlds. As a being of the senses (phenomenon) he

is subject in his volition and action to the control of natural necessity,

while as a being of reason (thing in itself) he is free. For science his

acts are the inevitable results of precedent phenomena, which, in turn,

are themselves empirically caused; nevertheless moral judgment holds

him responsible for his acts. In the one case, they are referred to his

empirical character, in the other, to his intelligible character. Man

cannot act otherwise than he does act, if he be what he is, but he need not

be as he is; the moral constitution of the intelligible character, which

reflects itself in the empirical character, is his own work, and its

radical transformation (moral regeneration) his duty, the fulfillment of

which is demanded, and, hence, of necessity possible.

[Footnote 1: On the difficulties in the way of this theory and the

possibility of their removal cf. R. Falckenberg, \_Ueber den intelligiblen

Character, zur Kritik der Kantischen Freiheitslehre\_ (from the \_Zeitschrift

für Philosophie\_, vol. lxxv.), Halle, 1879.]

(3) \_Speculative Theology\_. The principle of complete determination,

according to which of all the possible predicates of things, as compared

with their opposites, one must belong to each thing, relates the thing to

be determined to the sum of all possible predicates or the \_Idea of an ens

realissimum\_, which, since it is the representation of a single being, may

be called the \_Ideal\_ of pure reason. From this prototype things, as its

imperfect copies, derive the material of their possibility; all their

manifold determinations are simply so many modes of limiting the concept of

the highest reality, which is their common substratum, just as all figures

are possible only as different ways of limiting infinite space. Or better:

the derivative beings are not related to the ideal of the original Being as

limitations to the sum of the highest reality (on which view the Supreme

Being would be conceived as an aggregate consisting of the derivative

beings, whereas these presuppose it, and hence cannot constitute it), but

as consequences to a ground. But reason does not remain content with this

entirely legitimate thought of the dependence of finite things on the ideal

of the Being of all beings, as a relation of concepts to the Idea, but,

dazzled by an irresistible illusion, proceeds to realize, to hypostatize,

and to personify this ideal, and, since she herself is dimly conscious of

the illegitimacy of such a transformation of the mere Idea into a given

object, devises \_arguments for the existence of God\_. Reason, moreover,

would scarcely be induced to regard a mere creation of its thought as a

real being, if it were not compelled from another direction to seek a

resting place somewhere in the regress of conditions, and to think the

empirical reality of the contingent world as founded upon the rock of

something absolutely necessary. There is no being, however, which appears

more fit for the prerogative of absolute necessity than

that one the concept of which contains the therefore to every wherefore, and is in no respect defective; in other words, rational theology joins the rational ideal of the most perfect Being with the fourth cosmological Idea of the absolutely necessary Being.

The proof of the existence of God may be attempted in three ways: we may argue the existence of a supreme cause either by starting from a definite experience (the special constitution and order of the sense-world, that is, its purposiveness), or from an indefinite experience (any existence whatever), or, finally, abstracting from all experience, from mere concepts a priori . But neither the empirical nor the transcendent nor the intermediate line of thought leads to the goal. The most impressive and popular of the proofs is the physico-theological argument. But even if we gratuitously admit the analogy of natural products with the works of human art (for the argument is not able to prove that the purposive arrangement of the things in the world, which we observe with admiration, is contingent, and could only have been produced by an ordering, rational principle, not self-produced by their own nature according to general mechanical laws), this can yield an inference only to an intelligent author of the purposive form of the world, and not to an author of its matter, only, therefore, to a world-architect, not to a worldcreator. Further, since the cause must be proportionate to the effect, this argument can prove only a very wise and wonderfully powerful, but not an omniscient

and omnipotent, designer, and so cannot give any definite concept of

the supreme cause of the world. In leaping from the contingency of the

purposive order of the world to the existence of something absolutely

necessary and thence to an all-comprehensive reality, the teleological

argument abandons the ground of experience and passes over into the

\_cosmological argument\_, which in its turn is merely a concealed

ontological argument (these two differ only in the fact that the

cosmological proof argues from the antecedently given absolute necessity

of a being to its unlimited reality, and the ontological, conversely, from

supreme reality to necessary existence). The weaknesses of the cosmological

argument in its first half consist in the fact that, in the inference

from the contingent to a cause for it, it oversteps the boundary of the

sense-world, and, in the inference from the impossibility of an infinite

series of conditions to a first cause, it employs the subjective principle

of investigation -- to assume hypothetically a necessary ultimate ground in

behalf of the systematic unity of knowledge--as an objective principle

applying to things in themselves. The \_ontological argument\_, finally,

which the two nominally empirical arguments hoped to avoid, but in which in

the end they were forced to take refuge, goes to wreck on the impossibility

of dragging out of an idea the existence of the object corresponding to it.

Existence denotes nothing further than the position of the subject with all

the marks which are thought in its concept--that is, its relation to our

knowledge, but does not itself belong to the predicates

of the concept, and

hence cannot be analytically derived from the latter.

The content of the

concept is not enriched by the addition of being; a hundred real dollars do

not contain a penny more than a hundred conceived dollars. All existential

propositions are synthetic; hence the existence of God cannot be

demonstrated from the concept of God. It is a contradiction, to be sure, to

say that God is not almighty, just as it is a contradiction to deny that

a triangle has three angles: \_if\_ posit the concept I must not remove

the predicate which necessarily belongs to it. If I remove the subject,

however, together with its predicate (the almighty God is not), no

contradiction arises, for in that case nothing remains to be contradicted.

Thus all the proofs for the existence of a necessary being are shown to be

illusory, and the basis of speculative theology uncertain. Nevertheless the

idea of God retains its validity, and the perception of the inability of

reason to demonstrate its objective reality on theoretical grounds has

great value. For though the existence of God cannot be proved, it is true,

by way of recompense, that it cannot be disproved; the same grounds which

show us that the assertion of his existence is based on a weak foundation

suffice also to prove every contrary assertion unfounded. And should

practical motives present themselves to turn the scale in favor of the

assumption of a supreme and all-sufficient Being, reason would be obliged

to take sides and to follow these grounds, which, it is true, are not

objectively sufficient,[1] but still preponderant, and

than which we know

none better. After, however, the objective reality of the idea of God is

guaranteed from the standpoint of ethics, there remains for transcendental

theology the important negative duty ("censorship," Censor ) of exactly

determining the concept of the most perfect Being (as a being which through

understanding and freedom contains the first ground of all other things),

of removing from it all impure elements, and of putting an end to all

opposite assertions, whether atheistic, deistic (deism maintains the

possibility of knowing the existence of an original being, but declares all

further determination of this being impossible), or (in the dogmatic

sense) anthropomorphic. Theism is entirely possible apart from a mistaken

anthropomorphism, in so far as through the predicates which we take from

inner experience (understanding and will) we do not determine the concept

of God as he is in himself, but only \_analogically\_[2] in his relation to

the world. That concept serves only to aid us in our contemplation of

the world,[3] not as a means of knowing the Supreme Being himself. For

speculative purposes it remains a mere ideal, yet a perfectly faultless

one, which completes and crowns the whole of human knowledge.

[Footnote 1: "They need favor to supply their lack of legitimate claims."

Of themselves alone, therefore, they are unable to yield any theological

knowledge, but they are fitted to prepare the understanding for it, and to

give emphasis to other possible (moral) proofs.]

[Footnote 2: We halt \_at \_ the boundary of the legitimate

use of reason,
without overstepping it, when we limit our judgment to
the relation of
the world to the Supreme Being, and in this allow
ourselves a symbolical
anthropomorphism only, which in reality has reference to
our language alone
and not to the object.]

[Footnote 3: We are compelled to \_look on\_ the world \_as if\_ it were the work of a supreme intelligence and will. "We may confidently derive the phenomena of the world and their existence from other (phenomena), as if no necessary being existed, and yet unceasingly strive after completeness in the derivation, as though such a being were presupposed as a supreme ground." In short, physical (mechanical) \_explanation\_, and a theistic point of view or teleological \_judgment\_.]

Thus the value of the Ideas is twofold. By showing the untenable ness of

atheism, fatalism, and naturalism, they I clear the way for the objects of

faith. By providing natural science with the standpoint of a systematical

unity through teleological connection, they make an extension of the use of

the understanding possible within the realm of experience,[1] though not

beyond it. The systematic development of the Kantian teleology, which is

here indicated in general outlines only, is found in the second part of the

\_Critique of Judgment\_; while the practical philosophy, which furnishes the

only possible proof, the moral proof, for the reality of the Ideas, erects

on the site left free by the removal of the airy summer-houses of dogmatic

metaphysics the solid mansion of critical metaphysics, that is, the

metaphysics of duties and of hopes. "I was obliged to destroy knowledge

in order to make room for faith." The transition from the impossible

theoretical or speculative knowledge of things in themselves to the

possible "practical knowledge" of them (the belief that there is a God and

a future world) is given in the \_Doctrine of Method\_, which is divided into

four parts (the Discipline, the Canon, the Architectonic, and the History

of Pure Reason), in its second chapter. There, in the ideal of the Summum

Bonum\_, the proof is brought forward for the validity of the Ideas God,

freedom, and immortality, as postulates inseparable from moral obligation;

and by a cautious investigation of the three stages of assent (opinion,

knowledge, and belief) both doctrinal and moral belief are assigned their

places in the system of the kinds of knowledge.

[Footnote 1: The principle to regard all order in the world (\_e.g.\_, the

shape of the earth, mountains, and seas, the members of animal bodies) as

if it proceeded from the design of a supreme reason leads the investigator  $% \left( 1\right) =\left( 1\right) \left( 1\right)$ 

on to various discoveries.]

We may now sum up the results of the three parts of Kant's theoretical

philosophy. The pure intuitions, the categories, and the Ideas are

functions of the spirit, and afford non-empirical
\_(erfahrungsfreie)\_

knowledge concerning the objects of possible experience (and concerning the

possibility of knowledge). The first make universal and necessary knowledge

possible in relation to the forms under which objects can be given to us;

the second make a similarly apodictic knowledge possible

in relation to

the forms under which phenomena must be thought; the third make possible a

judgment of phenomena differing from this knowledge, yet not in conflict

with it. The categories and the Ideas, moreover, yield problematical

concepts of objects which are not given to us in intuition, but which may

exist outside of space and time: things in themselves cannot be known, it

is true, but they can be thought, a fact of importance in case we should be

assured of their existence in some other way than by sensuous intuition.

The determination of the limits of speculative reason is finished.

All knowing and all demonstration is limited to phenomena or possible

experience. But the boundary of that which can be experienced is not the

boundary of that which is, still less of that which ought to be; the

boundary of theoretical reason is not the boundary of practical reason. We

\_ought\_ to act morally; in order to be able to do this
we must ascribe to

ourselves the power to initiate a series of events; and, in general, we are

warranted in assuming everything the non-assumption of which makes moral

action impossible. If we were merely theoretical, merely experiential

beings, we should lack all occasion to suppose a second, intelligible world

behind and above the world of phenomena; but we are volitional and active

beings under laws of reason, and though we are unable to know things in

themselves, yet we may and must \_postulate\_ them--our freedom, God, and

immortality. For not only that which is a condition of experience is true

and necessary, but that, also, which is a condition of

morality. The discovery of the laws and conditions of morality is the mission of practical philosophy.

## %2. Theory of Ethics.%

The investigation now turns from the laws of nature, which express a

"must," to the laws of will, in which an "ought" is expressed, and by which

certain actions are not compelled, but prescribed. (If we were merely

rational, and not at the same time sensuous beings, the moral law would

determine the will in the form of a natural law; since, however, the

constant possibility of deviation is given in the sensibility, or, rather,

the moral standpoint can only be attained by conquering the sensuous

impulses, therefore the moral law speaks to us in the form of an "ought,"

of an imperative.) Among the laws of the will or imperatives, also,

there are some which possess the character of absolute necessity and

universality, and which, consequently, are \_a priori\_. As the understanding

dictates laws to the phenomenal world, so practical reason gives a law to

itself, is \_autonomous\_; and as the \_a priori\_ laws of
nature relate only

to the form of the objects of experience, so the moral law determines not

the content, but only the form of volition: "Act only on that maxim whereby

thou canst at the same time will that it should become a universal law."

The law of practical reason is a "categorical imperative." What does this

designation mean, and what is the basis of the formula of the moral law  $\,$ 

which has just been given?

Practical principles are either subjectively valid, in which case they are

termed maxims (volitional principles of the individual), or objectively

valid, when they are called imperatives or precepts. The latter are either

valid under certain conditions (If you wish to become a clergyman you must

study theology; he who would prosper as a merchant must not cheat his

customers), or unconditionally valid (Thou shalt not lie). All prudential

or technical rules are hypothetical imperatives, the moral law is a

categorical imperative. The injunction to be truthful is not connected with

the condition that we intend to act morally, but this general purpose,

together with all the special purposes belonging to it, to avoid lying,

etc., is demanded unconditionally and of everyone--as surely as we are

rational beings we are under moral obligation, not in order to reputation

here below and happiness above, but without all "ifs" and "in order to's."

Thou shalt unconditionally, whatever be the outcome. And as the moral law

is independent of every end to be attained, so it suffers neither increase

nor diminution in its binding force, whether men obey it or not. It has

absolute authority, no matter whether it is fulfilled frequently or seldom,

nay, whether it is fulfilled anywhere or at any time
whatsoever in the
world!

There is an important difference between the good which we are under

obligation to do and the evil which we are under obligation not to do, and

the goods and ills which we seek and avoid. The goods are always relatively

good only, \_good for something\_--as means to ends--and a bad use can be

made of all that nature and fortune give us as well as a good one. That

which duty commands is an end in itself, in itself good, absolutely

worthful, and no misuse of it is possible. It might be supposed that

pleasure, that happiness is an ultimate end. But men have very different

opinions in regard to what is pleasant, one holding one thing pleasurable

and another another. It is impossible to discover by empirical methods what

duty demands of all men alike and under all

circumstances; the appeal is to

our reason, not to our sensibility. If happiness were the end of rational

beings, then nature had endowed us but poorly for it, since instead of an

unfailing instinct she has given us the weak and deceitful reason as a

guide, which, with its train, culture, science, art, and luxury, has

brought more trouble than satisfaction to mankind. Man has a destiny other

than well-being, and a higher one--the formation of good dispositions: here

we have the only thing in the whole world that can never be used for evil,

the only thing that does not borrow its value from a higher end, but itself

originally and inalienably contains it, and that gives value to all else

that merits esteem. "Nothing can possibly be conceived in the world, or

even out of it, which can be called good without qualification, except a

\_good will\_." Understanding, courage, moderation, and whatever other mental

gifts or praiseworthy qualities of temperament may be cited, as also the

gifts of fortune, "are undoubtedly good and desirable in many respects, but

they may also become extremely evil and mischievous, if

the will which is

to make use of them is not good." These are the classic words with which

Kant commences the  $\_$ Foundation of the Metaphysics of Ethics .

When does the will deserve the predicate "good"? Let us listen to the

popular moral consciousness, which distinguishes three grades of moral

recognition. He who refrains from that which is contrary to duty, no matter

from what motives--as, for example, the shopkeeper who does not cheat

because he knows that honesty is the best policy-receives moderate

praise for irreproachable outward behavior. We bestow warmer praise and

encouragement on him whom ambition impels to industry, kind feeling to

beneficence, and pity to render assistance. But he alone earns our esteem

who does his duty for duty's sake. Only in this third case, where not

merely the external action, nor merely the impulse of a happy disposition,

but the will itself, the maxim, is in harmony with the moral law, where

the good is done for the sake of the good, do we find true morality, that

unconditioned, self-grounded worth. The man who does that which is in

accordance with duty out of reflection on its advantages, and he who does

it from immediate--always unreliable--inclination, acts
 legally; he alone

acts \_morally\_ who, without listening to advantage and inclination, takes

up the law into his disposition, and does his duty because it is duty. The

sole moral motive is the consciousness of duty, \_respect for the moral

lazy [1]

[Footnote 1: The respect or reverence which the law,

and, derivatively, the

person in whom it is realized, compel from us, is, as self-produced through

a concept of reason and as the only feeling which can be known a priori ,

specifically different from all feelings of inclination or fear awakened by

sensuous influences. As it strengthens and raises our rational nature, the

consciousness of our freedom and of our high destination, but, at the same

time, humbles our sensibility, there is mingled with the joy of exaltation

a certain pain, which permits no intimate affection for the stern and

sublime law. It is not quite willingly that we pay our respect--just

because of the depressing effect which this feeling exerts on our self-love.

Here Kant is threatened by a danger which he does not succeed in escaping.

The moral law demands perfect purity in our maxims; only the idea of duty,

not an inclination, is to determine the will. Quite right. Further, the one

judging is himself never absolutely certain, even when his own volition is

concerned, that no motives of pleasure have mingled with the feeling of

duty in contributing to the right action, unless that which was morally

demanded has been contrary to all his inclinations. When a person who is

not in need and who is free from cupidity leaves the money-box intrusted

to his care untouched, or when a man who loves life overcomes thoughts of

suicide, I may assume that the former was sufficiently protected

against the temptation by his moderation, and the other by his cheerful

disposition, and I rate their behavior as merely legal. When, on the other

hand, an official inclined to extravagance faithfully manages the funds

intrusted to him, or one who is oppressed by hopeless misery preserves his

life, although he does not love it, then I may ascribe the abstinence from

wrongdoing to moral principles. This, too, may be admitted. We are

certain of the morality of a resolution only when it can be shown that no

inclination was involved along with the maxim. The cases where the right

action is performed in opposition to inclination are the only ones in which

we may be certain that the moral quality of the action is unmixed--are

they, then, the only ones in which a moral disposition is present? Kant

rightly maintains that the admixture of egoistic motives beclouds the

purity of the disposition, and consequently diminishes its moral worth.

With equal correctness he draws attention to the possibility that, even

when we believe that we are acting from pure principles, a hidden sensuous

impulse may be involved. But he leaves unconsidered the possibility that,

even when the inclinations are favorable to right action, the action may be

performed, not from inclination, but because of the consciousness of duty.

Given that a man is naturally industrious, does this happy predisposition

protect him from fits of idleness? And if he resists them, must it always

be his inclination to activity and never moral principle which overcomes

the temptation? In yielding to the danger of confounding the limits of our

certain knowledge of the purity of motives with the limits of moral action,

and in admitting true morality only where action proceeds from principle

in opposition to the inclinations, Kant really deserves

the reproach of

rigorism or exaggerated purism--sometimes groundlessly extended to the

justifiable strictness of his views--and the ridicule of the well-known

lines of Schiller ("Scruples of Conscience" and "Decision" at the

conclusion of his distich-group "The Philosophers"):

"The friends whom I love I gladly would serve, but to this inclination

incites me;

And so I am forced from virtue to swerve since my act, through affection,

delights me.

The friends whom thou lovest thou must first seek to scorn, for to no

other way can I guide thee;

'Tis alone with disgust thou canst rightly perform the acts to which

duty would lead thee."

If we return from this necessary limitation of a groundless inference

(that true morality is present only when duty is performed against our

inclinations, when it is difficult for us, when a conflict with sensuous

motives has preceded), to the development of the fundamental ethical

conceptions, we find that important conclusions concerning the origin and

content of the moral law result from the principle obtained by the analysis

of moral judgment: this law commands with \_unconditional authority --for

every rational being and under all circumstances--what has unconditioned

worth\_--the disposition which corresponds to it. The universality and

necessity (\_unconditionalness\_) of the categorical
imperative proves that

it springs from no other source than reason itself. Those who derive

the moral law from the will of God subject it to a

condition, viz., the

immutability of the divine will. Those who find the source of moral

legislation in the pursuit of happiness make rational will dependent on a

natural law of the sensibility; it would be folly to enjoin by a moral law

that which everyone does of himself, and does superabundantly. Moreover,

the theories of the social inclinations and of moral sense fail of their

purpose, since they base morality on the uncertain ground of feeling. Even

the principle of perfection proves insufficient, inasmuch as it limits the

individual to himself, and, in the end, like those which have preceded,

amounts to a refined self-love. Theonomic ethics, egoistic ethics, the

ethics of sympathy, and the ethics of perfection are all eudemonistic, and

hence heteronomic. The practical reason[1] receives the law neither from

the will of God nor from natural impulse, but draws it out of its own depths; it binds itself.

[Footnote 1: Will and practical reason are identical. The definition runs:

Will is the faculty of acting in accordance with the representation of laws.

The grounds which establish the derivation of the moral law from the will

or reason itself exclude at the same time every material determination of

it. If the categorical imperative posited definite ends for the will, if it

prescribed a direction to definite objects, it could neither be known a

priori\_ nor be valid for all rational beings: its
apodictic character

forbids the admission of empirical elements of every sort.[1] If we think

away all content from the law we retain the form of universal legality, [2]

and gain the formula: "Act so that the maxim of thy will can always at

the same time hold good as a principle of universal legislation." The

possibility of conceiving the principle of volition as a universal law of

nature is the criterion of morality. If you are in doubt concerning the

moral character of an action or motive simply ask yourself the question,

What would become of humanity if everyone were to act according to the same

principle? If no one could trust the word of another, or count on aid from

others, or be sure of his property and his life, then no social life would

be possible. Even a band of robbers cannot exist unless certain laws are

respected as inviolable duties.

[Footnote 1: The moral law, therefore, is independent of all experience in

three respects, as to its origin, its content, and its validity. It springs

from reason, it contains a formal precept only, and its validity is not

concerned, whether it meets with obedience or not. It declares what ought

to be done, even though this never should be done.]

[Footnote 2: The "formal principle" of the Kantian ethics has met very

varied criticism. Among others Edmund Pfleiderer (\_Kantischer Kritizismus

und Englische Philosophie\_, 1881) and Zeller express themselves

unfavorably, Fortlage and Liebmann (\_Zur Analysis der Wirklichkeit\_, 2d

ed., 1880, p. 671) favorably.]

It was indispensable to free the supreme formula of the moral law from all

material determinations, \_i.e. , limitations. This does

not prevent us,

however, from afterward giving the abstract outline a more concrete

coloring. First of all, the concept of the dignity of persons in contrast

to the utility of things offers itself as an aid to explanation and

specialization. Things are means whose worth is always relative, consisting

in the useful or pleasant effects which they exercise, in the satisfaction

of a need or of the taste, they can be replaced by other means, which

fulfill the same purpose, and they have a (market or fancy) value; while

that which is above all value and admits of no equivalent has an ultimate

worth or \_dignity\_, and is an object of respect. The legislation which

determines all worth, and with this the disposition which corresponds to

it, has a dignity, an unconditioned, incomparable worth, and lends its

subjects, rational beings framed for morality, the advantage of being ends

in themselves. "Therefore morality, and humanity so far as it is capable of

morality, is that which alone possesses dignity." Accordingly the following

formulation of the moral law may be held equivalent to the first: "So act

as to treat humanity, whether in thine own person or in that of any other,

in every case as an end, never as a means only."

A further addition to the abstract formula of the categorical imperative

results from the discussion of the question, What universal ends admit of

subsumption under it, \_i.e.\_, stand the test of fitness to be principles of

a universal legislation? Here again Kant stands forth as an arbiter between

the contending parties, and, with a firm grasp, combines the useful

elements from both sides after winnowing them out from the worthless

principles. The majority of the eudemonistic systems, along with the

promotion of private welfare, prescribe the furtherance of universal good

without being able to indicate at what point the pursuit of personal

welfare should give way to regard for the good of others, while in the

perfectionist systems the social element is wanting or retreats unduly into

the background. The principle of happiness represents moral empiricism, the

principle of perfection moral rationalism. Kant resolves the antithesis

by restricting the theses of the respective parties within their proper

limits: "Make \_thine own perfection\_ and \_the happiness
of others the end

of thy actions;" these are the only ends which are at the same time duties.

The perfection of others is excluded by the fact that I cannot impart

to anyone a good disposition, for everyone must acquire it for himself;

personal happiness by the fact that everyone seeks it naturally.

This antithesis (which is crossed by the further distinction between

perfect, \_i.e.\_, indispensable, and imperfect duties)
serves as a basis for

the division of moral duties into duties toward ourselves and duties toward

other men.[1] The former enjoin the preservation and development of our

natural and moral powers, the latter are duties of obligation (of respect)

or of merit (of love). Since no one can obligate me to feel, we are to

understand by love not the pathological love of complacency, but only the

active love of benevolence or practical sympathy. Since it is just as

impossible that the increase of the evils in the world should be a duty,

the enervating and useless excitation of pity, which adds to the pain of

the sufferer the sympathetic pain of the spectator, is to be struck off

the list of virtues, and active readiness to aid put in its place. In

friendship love and respect unite in exact equipoise. Veracity is one of

the duties toward self; lying is an abandonment of human dignity and under

no conditions allowable, not even if life depends on it.

[Footnote 1: All duties are toward men, not toward supra-human or

infra-human beings. That which we commonly term duties toward animals,

likewise the so-called duties toward God, are in reality duties toward

ourselves. Cruelty to animals is immoral, because our sympathies are

blunted by it. To have religion is a duty to ourselves, because the view of

moral laws as laws of God is an aid to morality.]

After it has been settled what the categorical imperative enjoins, the

further problem awaits us of explaining how it is possible. The categorical

imperative is possible only on I the presupposition of our \_freedom\_. Only

a free being gives laws to itself, just as an autonomous being alone is

free. In theoretical philosophy the pure self-consciousness, the "I think,"

denoted a point where the thing in itself manifests to us not its nature,

indeed, but its existence. The same holds true in practical philosophy of

the moral law. The incontestable fact of the moral law empowers me to rank

myself in a higher order of things than the merely phenomenal order, and

in another causal relation than that of the merely

necessary (mechanical)

causation of nature, to regard myself as a legislative member of an

intelligible world, and one independent of sensuous impulses--in short, to

regard myself as free. Freedom is the \_ratio essendi\_ of the self-given

moral law, the latter the \_ratio cognoscendi\_ of freedom. The law would

have no meaning if we did not possess the power to obey it: I can because

I ought. It is true that freedom is a mere Idea, whose object can never be

given to me in an experience, and whose reality, consequently, cannot

be objectively known and proved, but nevertheless, is required with

satisfactory subjective necessity as the condition of the moral law and of

the possibility of its fulfillment. I may not say it is certain, but, with

safety, I am certain that I am free. Freedom is not a dogmatic proposition

of theoretical reason, but a \_postulate\_ of practical reason; and the

latter holds the \_primacy\_ over the former to this extent, that it can

require the former to show that certain transcendent Ideas of the

suprasensible, which are most intimately connected with moral obligation,

are compatible with the principles of the understanding. It was just in

view of the practical interests involved in the rational concepts God,

freedom, immortality, that it was so important to establish, at least,

their possibility (their conceivability without contradiction). That,

therefore, which the Dialectic recognized as possible is in the Ethics

shown to be real: Whoever seeks to fulfill his moral destiny--and this is

the duty of every man--must not doubt concerning the conditions of its

possible fulfillment, must, in spite of their incomprehensibility,

\_believe\_ in freedom and a suprasensible world. They are both postulates

of practical reason, \_i.e.\_, assumptions concerning that which is in behalf

of that which ought to be. Naturally the interests of the understanding

must not be infringed upon by those of the will. The principle of the

complete causal determination of events retains its validity unimpeached

for the sphere of the knowledge of the understanding, that is, for the

realm of phenomena; while, on the other hand, it remains permissible for

us to postulate another kind of causality for the realm of things in

themselves, although we can have no idea of its \_how\_, and to ascribe to

ourselves a free intelligible character.

While the Idea of freedom can be derived directly from the moral law as

a postulate thereof, the proof of the reality of the two other Ideas is

effected indirectly by means of the concept of the "highest good," in which

reason conceives a union of perfect virtue and perfect happiness. The

moral law requires absolute correspondence between the disposition and the

commands of reason, or holiness of will. But besides this supreme good

(\_bonum supremum\_) of completed morality, the highest
good ( bonum

consummatum\_) further contains a degree of happiness
corresponding to the

degree of virtue. Everyone agrees in the judgment that, by rights, things

should go well with the virtuous and ill with the wicked, though this must

not imply any deduction from the principle previously announced that the

least impulse of self-interest causes the maxim to

forfeit its worth: the

motive of the will must never be happiness, but always the being worthy of

happiness. The first element in the highest good yields the argument for

\_immortality\_, and the second the argument for the \_existence of God\_. (1)

Perfect correspondence between the will and the law never occurs in this

life, because the sensibility never allows us to attain a permanently good

disposition, armed against every temptation; our will can never be

holy, but at best virtuous, and our lawful disposition never escape the

consciousness of a constant tendency to transgression, or at least of

impurity. Since, nevertheless, the demands of the (Christian) moral law

continue in their unrelenting stringency to be the standard, we are

justified in the hope of an unlimited continuation of our existence,

in order that by constant progress in goodness we may draw nearer in

infinitum\_ to the ideal of holiness. (2) The
establishment of a rational

proportion between happiness and virtue is also not to be expected until

the future life, for too often on earth it is the evil man who prospers,

while the good man suffers. A justly proportioned distribution of rewards

and punishment can only be expected from an infinite power, wisdom, and

goodness, which rules the moral world even as it has created the natural

world. Deity alone is able to bring the physical and moral realms into

harmony, and to establish the due relation between wellbeing and right

action. This, the moral argument, is the only possible proof for the

existence of God. Theology is not possible as speculative, but only as

moral theology. The certitude of faith, moreover, is only different from,

not less than, the certainty of knowledge, in so far as it brings with it

not an objective, but a subjective, although universally valid, necessity.

Hence it is better to speak of belief in God as a need of the reason than

as a duty; while a logical error, not a moral one, should be charged

against the atheist. The atheist is blind to the intimate connection which

exists between the highest good and the Ideas of the reason; he does not

see that God, freedom, and immortality are the indispensable conditions of the realization of this ideal.

Thus faith is based upon duty without being itself duty: ethics is the

\_basis of religion\_, which consists in our regarding moral laws as

(\_instar\_, as if they were) divine commands. They are not valid or

obligatory because God has given them (this would be heteronomy), but they

should be regarded as divine because they are necessary laws of reason.

Religion differs from ethics only in its form, not in its content, in that

it adds to the conception of duty the idea of God as a moral lawgiver, and

thus increases the influence of this conception on the will; it is simply

a means for the promotion of morality. Since, however, besides natural

religion or the pure faith of reason (the moral law and the moral

postulates), the historical religions contain statutory determinations or a

doctrinal faith, it becomes the duty of the critical philosopher to inquire

how much of this positive admixture can be justified at the bar of reason.

In this investigation the question of the divine

revelation of dogma and ceremonial laws is neither supra-rationalistically affirmed nor naturalistically derived, but rationalistically treated as an open question.

The four essays combined under the title \_Religion within the Limits of
Reason Only\_ treat of the Radical Evil in Human Nature,
the Conflict of the
Good Principle with the Evil for the Mastery over Man,
the Victory of the
Good Principle over the Evil and the Founding of a
Kingdom of God upon
Earth, and, finally, Service and False Service under the
Dominion of the
Good Principle, or Religion and Priestcraft; or more
briefly, the fall, the
atonement (the Christ-idea), the Church, and true and

(1) The individual evil deeds of the empirical character point to an

original fault of the intelligible character, a propensity to evil

false service of God.

dwelling in man and not further deducible. This, although it is

self-incurred, may be called natural and innate, and consists (not in the

sensibility merely, but) in a freely chosen reversal of the moral order

of our maxims, in virtue of which the maxim of duty or morality is

subordinated to that of well-being or self-love instead of being

placed above it, and that which should be the supreme condition of all

satisfaction is degraded into a mere means thereto. Morality is therefore a

\_conversion\_ from the evil to the good, and requires a complete revolution

in the disposition, the putting on of a new man, a "new birth,"

which, an act out of time, can manifest itself in the

temporal world of phenomena only as a gradual transformation in conduct, as a continuous advance, but which, we may hope, is judged by him who knows the heart, who regards the disposition instead of particular imperfect actions, as a completed unity.

(2) By the eternal Son of God, for whose sake God created all things, we

are to understand the ideal of the perfect man, which in truth forms the

end of creation, and is come down from heaven, etc. To believe in Christ

means to resolve to realize in one's self the ideal of human nature which

is well pleasing to God, or to make the divine disposition of the Son of

God our own, not to believe that this ideal has appeared on earth as an

actual man, in the person of Jesus of Nazareth. The only saving faith is

the belief of reason in the ideal which Christ represents, and not the

historical belief in his person. The vicarious atonement of the ideal

man for those who believe on him is to be interpreted to mean that the

sufferings and sacrifices (crucifixion of the flesh) imposed by moral

conversion, which are due to the sinful man as punishment, are assumed by

the regenerate man: the new Adam bears the sufferings of the old. In the

same way as that in which Kant handles the history of Christ and the

doctrine of justification, all biblical narratives and ecclesiastical

doctrines are in public instruction (from the pulpit) to be interpreted

morally, even where the authors themselves had no such meaning in mind.

(3) The Church is a society based upon the laws of

virtue, an ethical

community or a people of God, whose members confirm each other in the

performance of duty by example and by the profession of a common moral

conviction; we are all brothers, the children of one father. Ideally there

is only one (the universal, invisible) Church, and its foundation the pure

faith of reason; but in consequence of a weakness peculiar to human nature

the foundation of an actual church required the addition of a statutory

historical faith, with claims to a divine origin, from which a multitude of

visible churches and the antithesis of orthodox and heretics have sprung.

The history of the Church since the establishment of Christianity

represents the conflict between the historical faith and the faith of

reason; its goal is the submission of the former to the latter, as, indeed,

we have already begun to perceive that God does not require a special

service beyond the practice of virtue.

(4) The true service of God consists in a moral disposition and its

manifestation: "All that man supposes himself able to do in order to please

God, beyond living a good life, is \_false service\_" False service is the

false subordination of the pure faith of reason to the statutory faith, by

which the attainment of the goal of religious development is hindered

and the laity are brought into dangerous dependence upon the clergy.

Priestcraft, hypocrisy, and fanaticism enter in the train of fetich

service. The church-faith is destined little by little to make itself

superfluous. It has been necessary as a vehicle, as a means for the

introduction and extension of the pure religion of morality, and it still

remains useful for a time, until humanity shall become of age; with man's

entrance on the period of youth and manhood, however, the leading-string of

holy traditions, which in its time did good service, becomes unnecessary,

nay, finally, a fetter. (This relative appreciation of the positive element

in religion, in antithesis to the unthinking rejection of it by the

Illumination, resembles the view of Lessing; cf. pp. 306-309.) Moreover,

since it is a duty to be a co-worker in the transition from the historical

to the pure religious faith, the clergy must be free as scientific

theologians, as scholars and authors to examine the doctrines of faith

and to give expression to dissenting opinions, while, as preachers in the

pulpit, speaking under commission, they are bound to the creeds. To decide

the articles of belief unalterable would be a crime against human

nature, whose primal destination is just this--to progress. To renounce

illumination means to trample upon the divine rights of reason.

The "General Observations" appended to each division add to the four

principle discussions as many collateral inquiries concerning Operations

of Grace, Miracles, Mysteries, and Means of Grace, objects of transcendent

ideas, which do not properly belong in the sphere of religion within pure

reason itself, but which yet border on it. (1) We are entirely incapable of

calling forth works of grace, nay, even of indicating the marks by which

actual divine illuminations are distinguished from imaginary ones; the

supposed experience of heavenly influences belongs in the region of

superstitious religious illusion. But their impossibility is just as little

susceptible of proof as their reality. Nothing further can be said on the

question, save that works of grace may exist, and perhaps must exist in

order to supplement our imperfect efforts after virtue; and that everyone,

instead of waiting for divine assistance, should do for his own amendment

all that is in his power. (2) Kant judges more sharply in regard to the

belief in miracles, which contradict the laws of experience without in the

least furthering the performance of our duties. In practical life no one

regards miracles as possible; and their limitation to the past and to rare

instances does not make them more credible. (3) In so far as the Christian

mysteries actually represent impenetrable secrets they have no bearing on

moral conduct; so far as they are morally valuable they admit of rational

interpretation and thus cease to be mysteries. The Trinity signifies the

three moral qualities or powers united in the head of the moral state: the

one God as holy lawgiver, gracious governor, and just judge. (4) The

services of the Church have worth as ethical ceremonies, as emblems of the

moral disposition (prayer) and of moral fellowship (church attendance,

baptism, and the Lord's Supper); but to find in these symbolic ceremonies

means of grace and to seek to purchase the favor of God by them, is an

error of the same kind as sorcery and fetichism. The right way leads from

virtue to grace, not in the opposite direction; piety without morality is worthless.

The Kantian theory of religion is rationalistic and moralistic. The fact

that religion is based on morality should never be assailed. But the

foundation is not the building, the origin not the content and essence

of the thing itself. As far as the nature of religion is concerned,

the Kantian view does not exclude completion in the direction of

Schleiermacher's theory of feeling, just as by its speculative

interpretation of the Christian dogmas and its appreciation of the history

of religion as a gradual transformation of historical faith into a faith of

reason, it points out the path afterward followed by Hegel. The philosophy

of religion of the future must be, as some recent attempts aim to be (0.

Pfleiderer, Biedermann, Lipsius), a synthesis of Kant, Schleiermacher, and Hegel.

While the moral law requires rightness not only of the action, but also of

the disposition, the law of right is satisfied when the act enjoined is

performed, no matter from what motives. Legal right, as the sum of the

conditions under which the will of the one can consist with the will of

others according to a universal law, relates only to enforceable actions,

without concerning itself about motives. Private right includes right in

things or property, personal right or right of contract, and real-personal

right (marriage right); public right is divided into the right of states,

of nations, and of citizens of the world. Kant's theory of punishment is

original and important. He bases it not upon prudential regard for the

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protection of society, or the deterrence or reformation of the criminal,
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but upon the exalted idea of retaliation (\_jus
talionis\_), which demands

that everyone should meet with what his deeds deserve: Eye for eye, life

for life. In \_politics\_ Kant favors democratic theories, though less

decidedly than Rousseau and Fichte. As he followed with interest the

efforts after freedom manifested in the American and French Revolutions, so

he opposed an hereditary nobility as a hindrance to the natural equality of

rights, and demanded freedom for the public expression of opinion as the

surest means of guarding against revolutions. The only legitimate form of

the state is the republican, \_i.e.\_, that in which the executive power is

separated from the legislative power, in contrast to despotism, where they

are united in one hand. The best guaranty for just government and civil

liberty is offered by constitutional monarchy, in which the people through

its representatives exercises the legislative power, the sovereign the

executive power, and judges chosen by the people the judicial power. The

contract from which we may conceive the state to have arisen is not to be

regarded as an historical fact, but as a rational idea or rule, by which

we may judge whether the laws are just or not: that which the people as a

whole cannot prescribe for itself, this cannot be prescribed for it by

the ruler (cf. p. 235). That there is a constant progress--not only of

individuals, but--of the race, not merely in technical and intellectual,

but also in moral respects, is supported both by rational grounds (without

faith in such progress we could not fulfill our duty as

co-laborers in it)

and by experiential grounds (above all, the unselfish sympathy which all

the world gave to the French Revolution); and the neverending complaint

that the times are growing worse proves only that mankind is continually

setting up stricter standards for itself. The beginning of history is to

be placed at the point where man passes out of the condition of innocence,

in which instinct rules, and begins to subdue nature, which hitherto he has

obeyed. The goal of history, again, is the establishment of the perfect

form of the state. Nature itself co-operates with freedom in the gradual

transformation of the state based on necessity (Notstaat) into a rational

state, inasmuch as selfish competition and the commercial spirit require

peace, order, and justice for their own security and help to bring them

about. And so, further, we need not doubt that humanity will constantly

draw nearer to the ideal condition of everlasting peace among the nations

(guaranteed by a league of states which shall as a mediator settle disputes

between individual states), however impracticable the idea may at present appear.

If the bold declaration of Fortlage, that in Kant the system of absolute

truth appeared, is true of any one part of his philosophy, it is true of

the practical part, in which Christian morality has found its scientific

expression. If we may justly complain that on the basis of his sharp

distinction between legality and morality, between legal duty and

virtue-duty, Kant took into account only the legal side of the institutions

of marriage and of the state, overlooking the fact that besides these they

have a moral importance and purpose, if we may demand a social ethic as a

supplement to his ethics, which is directed to the duties of the individual

alone, yet these and other well-founded desiderata may be attained by

slight corrections and by the addition of another story to the Kantian

edifice, while the foundations are still retained. The bases are immovable.

Autonomy, absolute oughtness, the formal character of the law of reason,

and the incomparable worth of the pure, disinterested disposition--these

are the corner stones of the Kantian, nay, of all morals.

## %3. Theory of the Beautiful and of Ends in Nature.%

We now know the laws which the understanding imposes upon nature and those

which reason imposes upon the will. If there is a field in which to be

(\_Sein\_) and ought to be (\_Sollen\_), nature and freedom, which we have thus

far been forced to consider antithetical, are reconciled--and that there

is such a field is already deducible from the doctrine of the religious

postulates (as practical truths or assumptions concerning what is, in

behalf of what ought to be), and from the hints concerning a progress in

history (in which both powers co-operate toward a common goal) -- then the

source of its laws is evidently to be sought in that faculty which mediates

alike between understanding and reason and between knowing and feeling:

in \_Judgment\_, as the higher faculty of feeling.
Judgment, in the general

sense, is the faculty of thinking a particular as

contained in a universal, and exercises a twofold function: as "determinant" judgment it subsumes the particular under a given universal (a law), as "reflective" it seeks the universal for a given particular. Since the former coincides with the understanding, we are here concerned only with the reflective judgment, judgment in the narrower sense, which does not cognize objects, but judges them, and this according to the principle of purposiveness.[1]

[Footnote 1: The universal laws springing from the understanding, to which every nature must conform to become an object of experience for us, determine nothing concerning the particular form of the given reality; we cannot deduce the special laws of nature from them. Nevertheless the nature of our cognitive faculty does not allow us to accept the empirical manifoldness of our world as contingent, but impels us to regard it as purposive or adapted to our knowledge, and to look upon these special laws as if an intelligence had given them in order to make a system of

experience possible.

This, in turn, is of two kinds. An object is really or \_objectively\_ purposive (perfect) when it corresponds to its nature or its determination, formally or \_subjectively\_ purposive (beautiful) when it is conformed to the nature of our cognitive faculty. The perception of purpose is always accompanied by a feeling of pleasure; in the first case, where the pleasure is based on a concept of the object, it is a logical satisfaction, in the second, where it springs only from the harmony of the

object with our

cognitive powers, aesthetic satisfaction. The objects of the teleological

and the aesthetic judgment, the purposive and the beautiful products of

nature and art, constitute the desired intermediate field between nature

and freedom; and here again the critical question comes up, How, in

relation to these, synthetic judgments \_a priori\_ are possible?

%(a) Esthetic Judgment.%--The formula holds of Kant's
aesthetics as well as

of his theoretical and practical philosophy, that his aim is to overcome

the opposition between the empirical and the rationalistic theories, and to

find a middle course of his own between the two extremes. Neither Burke

nor Baumgarten satisfied him. The English aesthetics was sensational, the

German, \_i.e.\_, that of the Wolffian school,

rationalistic. The former

identified the beautiful with the agreeable, the latter identified it with

the perfect or with the conformity of the object to its concept; in the one

case, aesthetic appreciation is treated as sensuous pleasure, in the other,

it is treated as a lower, confused kind of knowledge, its peculiar nature

being in both cases overlooked. In opposition to the sensualization of

aesthetic appreciation, its character as judgment must be maintained;

and in opposition to its rationalization, its character as feeling. This

relation of the Kantian aesthetics to that of his predecessors explains

both its fundamental tendency and the elements in it which appear defective

and erroneous. In any case, Kant shows himself in this field also an

unapproachable master of careful analysis.

The first task of aesthetics is the careful distinction of its object from

related phenomena. The beautiful has points of contact with the agreeable,

the good, the perfect, the useful, and the true. It is distinguished

from the true by the fact that it is not an object of knowledge, but

of satisfaction. If we inquire further into the difference between the

satisfaction in the beautiful and the satisfaction in the agreeable, in the

good (in itself), and in the (good for something, as a means, or in the)

useful, which latter three have this in common, that they are objects of

appetition--of sensuous want, of moral will, of prudential desire--it

becomes evident that the beautiful pleases through its mere representation

(that is, independently of the real existence of the object), and that

the delight in the beautiful is a contemplative pleasure. It is for

contemplation only, not to be sensuously enjoyed nor put to practical use;

and, further, its production is not a universal duty. Sensuous, prudential,

or moral appetition has always an "interest" in the actual existence of

the object; the beautiful, on the other hand, calls forth a disinterested satisfaction.

According to quality the beautiful is the object of a disinterested, free

(bound by no interest), and sportive satisfaction. According to quantity

and modality the judgment of taste claims universal and necessary validity,

without this being based upon concepts. This posits further differences

between the beautiful and the agreeable and the good. The good also pleases

universally, but it pleases through concepts; the agreeable as well as the

beautiful pleases without a concept, but it does not please universally.

That which pleases the reason through the concept is good; that which

pleases the senses in sensation is agreeable. That which pleases

\_universally and necessarily without a concept\_ is beautiful. Moral

judgment demands the assent of all, and its universal validity is

demonstrable. The judgment concerning the agreeable is not capable of

demonstration, but neither does it pretend to possess universal validity;

we readily acknowledge that what is pleasant to one need not be so to every

other man. In regard to the beautiful, on the contrary, we do not content

ourselves with saying that tastes differ, but we expect it to please all.

We expect everyone to assent to our judgment of taste, although it is able

to support itself by no proofs.

Here there is a difficulty: since the judgment of taste does not express

a characteristic of the object, but a state of mind in the observer, a

feeling, a satisfaction, it is purely subjective; and yet it puts forth a

claim to be universally communicable. The difficulty can be removed only on

the assumption of a common aesthetic sense, of a corresponding organization

of the powers of representation in all men, which yields the common

standard for the pleasurableness of the impression. The agreeable appeals

to that in man which is different in different individuals, the beautiful

to that which functions alike in all; the former addresses itself to

the passive sensibility, the latter to the active judgment. The

agreeable--because of the non-calculable differences in our sensuous

inclinations, which are in part conditioned by bodily states--possesses no

universality whatever, the good possesses an objective, and the beautiful

a subjective universality. The judgment concerning the agreeable has an

empirical, that concerning the beautiful an \_a priori\_,
determining ground:

in the former case, the judgment follows the feeling, in the latter, it precedes it.

An object is considered beautiful (for, strictly speaking, we may say only

this, not that it is beautiful) when its form puts the powers of the human

mind in a state of harmony, brings the intuitive and rational faculties

into concordant activity, and produces an agreeable proportion between the

imagination and the understanding. In giving the occasion for an harmonious

play of the cognitive activities (that is, for an easy combination of the

manifold into unity) the beautiful object is purposive for us, for our

function of apprehension; it is--here we obtain a determination of the

judgment of taste from the standpoint of relation-purposive without a

definite purpose\_. We know perfectly well that a landscape which attracts

us has not been specially arranged for the purpose of delighting us, and we

do not wish to find in a work of art anything of an intention to please.

An object is perfect when it is purposive for itself (corresponds to its

concept); useful when it is purposive for our desire (corresponds to a

practical intention of man); beautiful when the

arrangement of its parts

is purposive for the relation between the fancy and understanding of

the beholder (corresponds in an unusual degree to the conditions of our

apprehension). Perfection is internal (real, objective) purposiveness, and

utility is external purposiveness, both for a definite purpose; beauty,

on the other hand, is purposiveness without a purpose, formal, subjective

purposiveness. The beautiful pleases by its mere form. The satisfaction in

the perfect is of a conceptual or intellectual kind, the satisfaction in

the beautiful, emotional or aesthetic in character.

The combination of these four determinations yields an exhaustive

definition of the beautiful: The beautiful is that which universally and

necessarily arouses disinterested satisfaction by its mere form

(purposiveness without the representation of a purpose).

Since the pleasurableness of the beautiful rests on the fact that

it establishes a pleasing harmony between the imagination and the

understanding, hence between sensuous and intellectual apprehension, the

aesthetic attitude is possible only in sensuous-rational beings. The

agreeable exists for the animal as well, and the good is an object of

approval for pure spirits; but the beautiful exists for humanity alone.

Kant succeeded in giving very delicate and felicitous verbal expression

to these distinctions: the agreeable gratifies
\_(vergnügt)\_ and excites

inclination \_(Neigung)\_; the good is approved
 (gebilligt) and arouses

respect \_(Achtung)\_; the beautiful "pleases" \_(gefällt)\_
and finds "favor"

In the progress of the investigation the principle that beauty depends on

the form alone, and that the concept, the purpose, the nature of the

object is not taken into account at all in aesthetic judgment, experiences

limitation. In its full strictness this applies only to a definite and, in

fact, a subordinate division of the beautiful, which Kant marks off under

the name of pure or \_free\_ beauty. With this he contrasts \_adherent\_

beauty, as that which presupposes a generic concept to which its form must

correspond and which it must adequately present. Too much a purist not

to mark the coming in of an intellectual pleasure as a beclouding of the

"purity" of the aesthetic satisfaction, he is still just enough to admit

the higher worth of adherent beauty. For almost the whole of artificial

beauty and a considerable part of natural beauty belong to this latter

division, which we to-day term ideal and characteristic beauty. Examples of

free or purely formal beauty are tapestry patterns, arabesques, fountains,

flowers, and landscapes, the pleasurableness of which rests simply on the

proportion of their form and relations, and not upon their conformity to a

presupposed significance and determination of the thing. A building, on the

contrary--a dwelling, a summer-house, a temple--is considered beautiful

only when we perceive in it not merely harmonious relations of the parts

one to another, but also an agreement between the form and the purpose or

generic concept: a church must not look like a chalet. Here the external

form is compared with an inner nature, and harmony is required between form

and content. Adherent beauty is significant and expressive beauty, which,

although the satisfaction in it is not "purely" aesthetic, nevertheless

stands higher than pure beauty, because it gives to the understanding also

something to think, and hence busies the whole spirit.

The analytical investigations concerning the nature of the beautiful

receive a valuable supplement in the classical definition of genius. Kant

gives two definitions of productive talent, one formal and one genetic.

Natural beauty is a beautiful thing; artificial beauty, a beautiful

representation of a thing. The gift of agreeably presenting a thing which

in itself, perhaps, is ugly, is called taste. To judge of the beautiful

it is sufficient to possess taste, but for its production there is still

another talent needed, spirit or genius. For an art product can fulfill

the demands of taste and yet not aesthetically satisfy; while formally

faultless, it may be spiritless.

While beautiful nature looks as though it were art (as though it were

calculated for our enjoyment), beautiful art should resemble nature, must

not appear to be intentional though, no doubt, it is so, must show a

careful but not an overnice adherence to rules (\_i.e.\_, not one which

fetters the powers of the artist). This is the case when the artist bears

the rule in himself, that is, when he is gifted. Genius is the

innate disposition (through) which (nature) gives rules to art; its

characteristics are originality, exemplariness, and unreflectiveness. It

does not produce according to definite rules which can be learned, but

it is a law in itself, it is original. It creates instinctively without

consciousness of the rule, and cannot describe how it produces its results.

It creates typical works which impel others to follow, not to imitate. It

is only in art that there are geniuses, \_i.e.\_, spirits who produce that

which absolutely cannot be learned, while the great men of science differ

only in degree, not in kind, from their imitators and pupils, and that

which they discover can be learned by rule.

This establishes the criteria by which genius may be recognized. If we ask

by what psychological factors it is produced the answer is as follows:

Genius presupposes a certain favorable relation between imagination and

reason. Genius is the faculty of aesthetic Ideas, but an aesthetic Idea is

a representation of the imagination which animates the mind, which adds to

a concept of the understanding much of ineffable thought, much that belongs

to the concept but which cannot be comprehended in a definite concept. With

the aid of this idea Kant solves the antinomy of the aesthetic judgment.

The thesis is: The judgment of taste is not based upon concepts; for

otherwise it would admit of controversy (would be determinable by proofs).

The antithesis is: It is based upon concepts; for otherwise we could not

contend about it (endeavor to obtain assent). The two principles are

reconcilable, for "concept" is understood differently in the two cases.

That which the thesis rightly seeks to exclude from the

judgment of beauty is the determinate concept of the understanding; that which the antithesis with equal justice pronounces indispensable is the indeterminate concept, the aesthetic Idea.

The freest play is afforded the imagination by poetry, the highest of all arts, which, with rhetoric ("insidious," on account of its earnest intention to deceive), forms the group termed arts of speech. To the class of formative arts belong architecture, sculpture, and painting as the art of design. A third group, the art of the beautiful play of sensations, includes painting as the art of color, and music, which as a "fine" art is

placed immediately after poetry, as an "agreeable" art at the very foot of

the list, and as the play of tone in the vicinity of the entertaining play

of fortune [games of chance] and the witty play of thought. The explanation

of the comic (the ludicrous is based, according to Kant, on a sudden

transformation of strained expectation into nothing) lays great (indeed

exaggerated) weight on the resulting physiological phenomena, the

bodily shock which heightens vital feeling and favors health, and which

accompanies the alternating tension and relaxation of the mind.

Besides free and adherent beauty, there is still a third kind of aesthetic

effect, the Sublime. The beautiful pleases by its bounded form. But also

the boundless and formless can exert aesthetic effect: that which is great

beyond all comparison we judge sublime. Now this magnitude is either

extensive in space and time or intensive greatness of

force or power;

accordingly there are two forms of the sublime. That phenomenon which mocks

the power of comprehension possessed by the human imagination or surpasses

every measure of our intuition, as the ocean and the starry heavens, is

mathematically sublime. That which overcomes all conceivable resistance,

as the terrible forces of nature, conflagrations, floods, earthquakes,

hurricanes, thunderstorms, is dynamically sublime or mighty. The former

is relative to the cognitive, the latter to the appetitive faculty. The

beautiful brings the imagination and the understanding into accord; by

the sublime the fancy is brought into a certain favorable relation, not

directly to be termed harmony, with reason. In the one case there arose a

restful, positively pleasurable mood; here a shock is produced, an indirect

and negative pleasure proceeding from pain. Since the sublime exceeds the

functional capability of our sensuous representations and does violence to

the imagination, we first feel small at the sight of the absolutely great,

and incapable of compassing it with our sensuous glance. The sensibility is

not equal to the impression; this at first seems contrary to purpose and

violent. This humiliating impression, however, is quickly followed by a

reaction, and the vital forces, which were at first checked, are stimulated

to the more lively activity. Moreover, it is the sensuous part of man

which is humbled and the spiritual part that is exalted: the overthrow of

sensibility becomes a triumph for reason. The sight of the sublime, that

is, awakens the \_Idea of the unconditioned, of the infinite\_. This Idea can

never be adequately presented by an intuition, but can be aroused only

by the inadequacy of all that is sensuous to present it; the infinite is

presented through the impossibility of presenting it. We cannot intuit the

infinite, but we can think it. In comparison with reason (as the faculty of

Ideas, the faculty of thinking the infinite) even the greatest thing that

can be given in the sense-world appears small; reason is the absolutely

great. "That is sublime the mere ability to think which proves a faculty

of the mind surpassing every standard of sense." "That is sublime which

pleases immediately through its opposition to the interest of the senses."

The conflict between phantasy and reason, the insufficiency of the former

for the attainment of the rational Idea, makes us conscious of the

superiority of reason. Just because we feel small as sensuous beings we

feel great as rational beings. The pleasure (related to the moral feeling

of respect and, like this, mingled with a certain pain) which accompanies

this consciousness of inner greatness is explained by the fact that the

imagination, in acknowledging reason superior, places itself in the

appropriate and purposive relation of subordination. It is evident from the

foregoing that the truly sublime is reason, the moral nature of man, his

predisposition and destination, which point beyond the present world.

Schiller declares that "in space the sublime does not dwell," and

Kant says, "Sublimity is contained in none of the things of nature, but

only in our mind, in so far as we are conscious of being superior to nature

within us and without us." Nevertheless, since in this

contemplation we fix

our thoughts entirely on the object without reflecting on ourselves, we

transfer the admiration of right due to the reason and its Idea of the

infinite by subreption to the object by which the Idea is occasioned, and

call the object itself sublime, instead of the mood which it wakes in us.

If the sublime marks the point where the aesthetic touches on the boundary

of the moral, the beautiful is also not without some relation to the good.

By showing the agreement of sensibility and reason, which is demanded by

the moral law, realized in aesthetic intuition (as a voluntary yielding of

the imagination to the legitimacy of the understanding), it gives us the

inspiring consciousness that the antithesis is reconcilable, that the

rational can be presented in the sensuous, and so becomes a "symbol of the good."

%(b) Teleological Judgment.%--Teleological judgment is not knowledge, but

a way of looking at things which comes into play where the causal or

mechanical explanation fails us. This is not the case if the purposiveness

is external, relative to its utility for something else. The fact that the

sand of the sea-shore furnishes a good soil for the pine neither furthers

nor prevents a causal knowledge of it. Only inner purposiveness, as it

is manifested in the products of organic nature, brings the mechanical

explanation to a halt. Organisms are distinguished above inorganic forms by

the fact that of themselves they are at once cause and effect, that they

are self-productive and this both as a species (the oak

springs from the

acorn, and in its turn bears acorns) and as individuals (self-preservation,

growth, and the replacement of dying parts by new ones), and also by the

fact that the reciprocally productive parts are in their form and their

existence all conditioned by the whole. This latter fact, that the whole is

the determining ground for the parts, is perfectly obvious in the products

of human art. For here it is the representation of the whole (the idea of

the work desired) which as the ground precedes the existence and the form

of the parts (of the machine). But where is the subject to construct

organisms according to its representations of ends? We may neither conceive

nature itself as endowed with forces acting in view of ends, nor a

praetermundane intelligence interfering in the course of nature. Either of

these suppositions would be the death of natural philosophy: the hylozoist

endows matter with a property which conflicts with its nature, and the

theist oversteps the boundary of possible experience. Above all, the

analogy of the products of organic nature with the products of human

technique is destroyed by the fact that machines do not reproduce

themselves and their parts cannot produce one another, while the organism organizes itself.

For our discursive understanding an interaction between the whole and the

parts is completely incomprehensible. We understand when the parts precede

the whole (mechanically) or the representation of the whole precedes

the parts (teleologically); but to think the whole itself (not the Idea

thereof) as the ground of the parts, which is demanded by organic life,

is impossible for us. It would have been otherwise if an intuitive

understanding had been bestowed upon us. For a being possessing

intellectual intuition the antithesis between possibility and actuality,

between necessity and contingency, between mechanism and teleology, would

disappear along with that between thought and intuition. For such a being

everything possible (all that it thinks) would be at the same time

actual (present for intuition), and all that appears to us

contingent--intentionally selected from several possibilities and in order

to an end--would be necessary as well; with the whole would be given

the parts corresponding thereto, and consequently natural mechanism

and purposive connection would be identical, while for us, to whom the

intuitive understanding is denied, the two divide. Hence the teleological

view is a mere form of human representation, a subjective principle. We may

not say that a mechanical origin of living beings is impossible, but only

that we are unable to understand it. If we knew how a blade of grass or

a frog sprang from mechanical forces, we would also be in a position to produce them.

The antinomy of the teleological judgment--thesis: all production of

material things and their forms must be judged to be possible according to

merely mechanical laws; antithesis: some products of material nature cannot

be judged to be possible according to merely mechanical laws, but to judge

them requires the causality of final causes -- is

insoluble so long as both

propositions are taken for constitutive principles; but it is soluble when

they are taken as regulative principles or standpoints for judgment. For it

is in no wise contradictory, on the one hand, to continue the search for

mechanical causes as far as this is in any way possible, and, on the other,

clearly to recognize that, at last, this will still leave a remainder which

we cannot make intelligible without calling to our aid the concept of ends.

Assuming that it were possible to carry the explanation of life from life,

from ancestral organisms (for the \_generatio aequivoca\_
is an absurd

theory) so far that the whole organic world should represent one great

family descended from one primitive form as the common mother, even

then the concept of final causes would only be pushed further back, not

eliminated: the origin of the first organization will always resist

mechanical explanation. Besides this mission of putting limits to causal

derivation and of filling the gap in knowledge by a necessary, although

subjective, way of looking at things, the Idea of ends has still another,

the direct promotion of knowledge from efficient causes through the

discovery of new causal problems. Thus, for example, physiology owes the

impulse to the discovery of previously unnoticed mechanical connections

(cf. also p. 382 note) to the question concerning the purpose of organs.

As doctrines mechanism and teleology are irreconcilable and impossible;

as rules or maxims of inquiry they are compatible, and the one as

indispensable as the other.

After the problem of life, which is insoluble by means of the mechanical

explanation, has necessitated the application of the concept of ends, the

teleological principle must, at least by way of experiment, be extended to

the whole of nature. This consideration culminates in the position that

man, as the subject of morality, must be held to be the final aim of the

world, for it is only in regard to a moral being that no further inquiry

can be raised as to the purpose of its existence. It also repeats the

moral argument for the existence of a supreme reason, thus supplementing

physico-theology, which is inadequate to the demonstration of one

absolutely perfect Deity; so that the third \_Critique\_, like the two

preceding, concludes with the Idea of God as an object of practical faith.

\* \* \* \* \* \*

There are three original and pregnant pairs of thoughts which cause Kant's

name to shine in the philosophical sky as a star of the first magnitude:

the demand for a critique of knowledge and the proof of a priori forms

of knowledge; the moral autonomy and the categorical imperative; the

regulative validity of the Ideas of reason and the practical knowledge of

the transcendent world. No philosophical theory, no scientific hypothesis

can henceforth avoid the duty of examining the value and legitimacy of its

conclusions, as to whether they keep within the limits of the competency of

human reason; whether Kant's determination of the origin and the limits of

knowledge may count on continued favor or not, the fundamental critical

idea, that reflection upon the nature and range of our cognitive faculty is

indispensable, retains its validity for all cases and makes an end of all

philosophizing at random.[1] No ethical system will with impunity pass by

the autonomous legislation of reason and the unconditional imperative (the

admonition of conscience translated into conceptual language): the nature

and worth of moral will will be everywhere sought in vain if they are not

recognized where Kant has found them--in the unselfish disposition, in that

maxim which is fitted to become a general law for all rational beings.

The doctrine of the Ideas, finally, reveals to us, beyond the daylight of

phenomenal knowledge, the starlit landscape of another mode of looking at

things, [2] in which satisfaction is afforded for the hitherto unmet wishes

of the heart and demands of the reason.

[Footnote 1: "\_Reason\_ consists just in this, that we are able to give account of all our concepts, opinions, and assertions, either on objective or subjective grounds."]

[Footnote 2: Those who regard all future metaphysics as refuted by the

Critique of Reason are to be referred to the positive side of the Kantian

doctrine of Ideas. Kant admits that the mechanical explanation does not

satisfy reason, and that, besides it, a judgment according to Ideas is

legitimate. When, therefore, the speculation of the constructive school

gives an ideal interpretation of the world, it may be regarded as an

extended application of "regulative principles," which exceeds its

authority only when it professes to be "objective

# knowledge."]

The effect of the three \_Critiques\_ upon the public was very varied. The

first great work excited alarm by the sharpness of its negations and its

destruction of dogmatic metaphysics, which to its earliest readers appeared

to be the core of the matter; Kant was for them the universal destroyer.

Then the Science of Knowledge brought into prominence the positive,

boldly conquering side, the investigation of the conditions of empirical

knowledge. In later times the endeavor has been made to do justice to both

sides, but, in opposition to the overbold procedure of the constructive

thinkers, who had fallen into a revived dogmatism, more in the spirit of

caution and resignation. The second great work aroused glowing enthusiasm:

"Kant is no mundane luminary," writes Jean Paul in regard to the \_Critique

of Practical Reason\_, "but a whole solar system shining at once."

The third, because of its subject and by its purpose of synthetic

reconciliation between fields heretofore sharply separated, gained the

sympathy of our poet-heroes Schiller and Goethe, and awakened in a young,

speculative spirit Ideas for a Philosophy of Nature. Schelling reclaimed

the intuitive understanding, which Kant had problematically attributed to

the primal spirit, as the property of the philosopher, after Fichte had

drawn attention to the fact that the consciousness of the categorical

imperative, which Kant had not thoroughly investigated, could be nothing

else than intellectual intuition, because in it knowing and doing coincide.

Fichte, however, does not derive the material for his

system from the

\_Critique of Judgment\_, though he also had a high appreciation of it, but

from the two earlier \_Critiques\_, the fundamental conceptions of which

he--following the hint that practical and theoretical reason are only

different applications of one and the same reason-brings into the closest

connection. He unites the central idea of the practical philosophy, the

freedom and autonomous legislation of the will, with the leading principle

of the theoretical philosophy, the spontaneity of the understanding, under

the original synthesis of the pure ego, in order to deduce from the

activity of the ego not only the \_a priori\_ forms of knowledge, but also,

rejecting the thing in itself, the whole content of empirical

consciousness. The thought which intervenes between the Kantian Critique

of Reason and the development of thoroughgoing idealism by Fichte, with

its criticisms of and additions to the former and its preparation for the

latter, may be glanced at in a few supplementary pages.

### %4. From Kant to Fichte.%

To begin with the works which aided in the extension and recognition of the

Kantian philosophy, besides Kant's \_Prolegomena\_, the following stand

in the front rank: \_Exposition of the Critique of Pure Reason\_, by the

Königsberg court preacher, Johannes Schulz, 1784; the flowing \_Letters

concerning the Kantian Philosophy\_, by K.L. Reinhold in Wieland's

\_Deutscher Merkur\_, 1786-87; and the \_Allgemeine Litteraturzeitung\_, in

Jena, founded in 1785, and edited by the philologist

Schütz and the jurist

Hufeland, which offered itself as the organ of the new doctrine. Jena

became the home and principal stronghold of Kantianism; while by the

beginning of the nineteenth century almost all German chairs belonged to

it, and the non-philosophical sciences as well received from it stimulation and guiding ideas.

In the camp of the enemy there was no less of activity. The Wolffian,

Eberhard of Halle, founded a special journal for the purpose of opposing

the Kantian philosophy: the \_Philosophisches Magazin\_, 1789, continued from

1792 as the \_Philosophisches Archiv\_. The Illumination collected its forces

in the \_Philosophische Bibliothek\_, edited by Feder and Meiners. Nicolai

waved the banner of common sense in the \_Allgemeine deutsche Bibliothek\_,

and in satirical romances, and was handled as he deserved by the heroes

of poetry and philosophy (cf. the \_Xenien\_ of Goethe and Schiller, Kant's

\_Letter on Bookmaking\_, and Fichte's cutting disposal of him, \_Nicolai's

Life and Peculiar Opinions\_). The attacks of the faith-philosophers have

been already noticed (pp. 310-314).

The advance from Kant to Fichte was preparing alike among friends and

enemies, and this in two points. The demand was in part for a formal

complement (a first principle from which the Kantian results could be

deduced, and by which the dualism of sense and understanding could be

overcome), in part for material correction (the removal of the thing in

itself) and development (to radical idealism). Karl Leonhard Reinhold (born

at Vienna in 1758; fled from a college of the St. Barnabite order, 1783;

in 1787-94 professor in Jena, and then as the successor of Tetens in Kiel,

where he died in 1823) undertook the former task in his Attempt at a New

Theory of the Human Faculty of Representation\_, 1789. Kant's classical

theory of the faculty of cognition requires for its foundation a theory of

the faculty of representation, or an elementary philosophy, which shall

take for its object the deduction of the several functions of reason

(intuition, concept, Idea) from the original activity of representation.

The Kantian philosophy lacks a first principle, which, as first, cannot be

demonstrable, but only a fact immediately evident and admitted by everyone.

The primal fact, which we seek, is consciousness. No one can dispute that

every representation contains three things: the subject, the object, and,

between the two, the activity of representation.

Accordingly the principle

of consciousness runs: "The representation is distinguished in

consciousness from the represented [object] and the representing [subject],

and is referred to both." From this first principle Reinhold endeavors to

deduce the well-known principles of the material manifold given by the

action of objects, and the forms of representation spontaneously produced

by the subject, which combine this manifold into unity. When, a few years

later, Fichte's Science of Knowledge brilliantly succeeded in bridging the

gap between sense and understanding by means of a first principle, thus

accomplishing what Reinhold had attempted, the latter became one of his

adherents, only to attach himself subsequently to

Jacobi, and then to Bardili (\_Outlines of Logic\_, 1800), and to end with a verbal philosophy lacking both in influence and permanence.

In Reinhold's elementary philosophy the thing in itself was changed from a problematical, negative, merely limiting concept into a

problematical, negative, merely limiting concept into a positive element of

doctrine. Objections were raised against Kantianism, as thus dogmatically

modified in the direction of realism, by Schulze, Maimon, and Beck--by

the first for purposes of attack, by the second in order to further

development, and by the third with an exegetical purpose. Gottlob Ernst

Schulze, professor in Helmstädt, and from 1810 in Göttingen, in his

\_Aenesidemus\_ (1792, published anonymously), which was followed later by

psychological works, defended the skeptical position in opposition to

the Critique of Reason. Hume's skepticism remains unrefuted by Kant

and Reinhold. The thing in itself, which is to produce the material of

representation by affecting the senses, is a self-contradictory idea. The

application of the category of cause to things in themselves violates

the doctrine that the latter are unknowable and that the use of the pure

concepts of the understanding beyond the sphere of experience is

inadmissible. The transcendental philosophy has never proved that the

ground of the material of representation cannot, just as the form thereof,

reside in the subject itself.

Side by side with the anti-critical skepticism of Aenesidemus-Schulze, Salomon Maimon (died 1800; cf. Witte, 1876), who was

highly esteemed by the

greatest philosophers of his time, represents critical skepticism. With

Reinhold he holds consciousness (as the combination of a manifold into

objective unity) to be the common root of sensibility and understanding,

and with Schulze, the concept of the thing in itself to be an imaginary or

irrational quantity, a thought that cannot be carried out; it is not only

unknowable, but unthinkable. That alone is knowable which we ourselves

produce, hence only the form of representation. The matter of

representation is "given," but this does not mean that it arises from the

action of the thing in itself, but only that we do not know its origin.

Understanding and sense, or spontaneity and receptivity, do not differ

generically, but only in degree, viz., as complete and incomplete

consciousness. Sensation is an incomplete consciousness, because we do not

know how its object arises.

By the removal of the thing in itself Aenesidemus-Schulze sought to refute

the Kantian theory and Maimon to improve it. Sigismund Beck (1761-1840), in

his \_Only Possible Standpoint from which the Critical Philosophy must be

Judged\_, 1796,[1] seeks by it to elucidate the Kantian theory, holding up

idealism as its true meaning. In opposition to the usual opinion that a

representation is true when it agrees with its object, he points to the

impossibility of comparing the one with the other. Of objects out of

consciousness we can know nothing; after the removal of all that is

subjective there is nothing positive left of the representation. Everything

in it is produced by us; the matter arises together with

the form through
the "original synthesis."

[Footnote 1: This book forms the third volume of his Expository Abridgment

of the Critical Writings of Professor Kant\_; in the same year appeared the

\_Outlines of the Critical Philosophy\_. Cf. on Beck, Dilthey in the \_Archiv

für Geschichte der Philosophie\_, vol. ii., 1889, pp. 592-650.]

The last mentioned attempts to develop the Kantian philosophy were so far

surpassed by Fichte's great achievement that they have received from their

own age and from posterity a less grateful appreciation and remembrance

than was essentially their due. A phenomenon of a different sort, which is

also to be placed at the threshold between Kant and Fichte, but which forms

rather a supplement to the noëtics and ethics of the latter than a link in

the transition to them, has, on the contrary, gained an honorable position

in the memory of the German people, viz., Schiller's aesthetics.[1] In

its center stand the Kantian antithesis of sensibility and reason and

the reconciliation of the two sides of human nature brought about by its

occupation with the beautiful. Artistic activity or the play-impulse

mediates between the lower, sensuous matter-impulse and the higher,

rational form-impulse, and unites the, two in harmonious co-operation.

Where appetite seeks after satisfaction, and where the strict idea of duty

rules, there only half the man is occupied; neither lust nor moral worth is

beautiful. In order that beauty and grace may arise, the matter-impulse

and the form-impulse, or sensibility and reason, must

manifest themselves

uniformly and in harmony. Only when he "plays" is man wholly and entirely

man; only through art is the development of humanity possible. The

discernment of the fact that the beautiful brings into equilibrium the two

fundamental impulses, one or the other of which preponderates in sensuous

desire and in moral volition, does not of itself decide the relative rank

of artistic and moral activity. The recognition of this mediating position

of art may be connected with the view that it forms a transitional stage

toward and a means of education for morality, as well as with the other,

that in it human nature attains its completion. Evidence of both views can

be found in Schiller's writings. At first he favors the Kantian moralism,

which admits nothing higher than the good will, and sets art the task

of educating men up to morality by ennobling their natural impulses.

Gradually, however, aesthetic activity changes in his view from a

preparation for morality into the ultimate goal of human endeavor. Peaceful

reconciliation is of more worth than the spirit's hardly gained victory

in the conflict with the sensibility; fine feeling is more than rational

volition; the highest ideal is the beautiful soul, in which inclination not

merely obeys the command of duty, but anticipates it.

[Footnote 1: The most important of Schiller's aesthetic essays are those

\_On Grace and Dignity\_, 1793; \_On Naïve and Sentimental Poetry\_, 1795-96;

and the \_Letters on Aesthetic Education\_, intermediate between them. Cf.

Kuno Fischer, \_Schiller als Philosoph\_, 1858, 2d ed.
( Schillerschriften ,

#### CHAPTER X.

#### FICHTE.

Fichte is a Kantian in about the same sense that Plato was a Socratic.

Instead of taking up and developing particular critical problems he

makes the vivifying kernel, the soul of criticism, his own. With the

self-activity of reason (as a real force and as a problem) for his

fundamental idea, he outlines with magnificent boldness a new view of the

world, in which the idealism concealed in Kant's philosophy under the

shell of cautious limitations was roused into vigorous life, and the great

Königsberger's noble words on the freedom, the position, and the power of

the spirit translated from the language of sober foresight into that of

vigorous enthusiasm. The world can be understood only from the standpoint

of spirit, the spirit only from the will. The ego is pure activity, and all

reality its product. Fichte's system is all life and action: its aim is not

to mediate knowledge, but to summon the hearer and reader to the production

of a new and pregnant fundamental view, in which the will is as much

a participant as the understanding; it begins not with a concept or a

proposition, but with a demand for action (posit thyself; do consciously

what thou hast done unconsciously so often as thou hast called thyself I;

analyze, then, the act of self-consciousness, and cognize in their elements

the forces from which all reality proceeds); its God is

not a completed

absolute substance, but a self-realizing world-order.

This inner vivacity

of the Fichtean principle, which recalls the pure actuality of Aristotle's

[Greek: nous] and the ceaseless becoming of Heraclitus, finds its complete

parallel in the fact that, although he was wanting neither in logical

consecutiveness nor in the talent for luminous and popular exposition,

Fichte felt continually driven to express his ideas in new forms, and, just

when he seemed to have succeeded in saying what he meant with the greatest

clearness, again unsatisfied, to seek still more exact and evident

renderings for his fundamental position, which proved so difficult to formulate.

The author of the \_Wissenschaftslehre\_ was the son of a poor ribbon maker,

and was born at Rammenau in Lusatia in 1762. The talents of the boy induced

the Freiherr von Miltiz to give him the advantage of a good education.

Fichte attended school in Meissen and in Pforta, and was a student of

theology at the universities of Jena and Leipsic. While a tutor in Zurich

he made the acquaintance of Lavater and Pestalozzi, as well as of his

future wife, Johanna Rahn, a niece of Klopstock.

Returning to Leipsic, his

whole mode of thought was revolutionized by the Kantian philosophy, in

which it was his duty to instruct a pupil. This gives to the mind, as his

letters confess, an inconceivable elevation above all earthly things. "I

have adopted a nobler morality, and, instead of occupying myself with

things without me, have been occupied more with myself." "I now believe

with all my heart in human freedom, and am convinced that only on this

supposition duty and virtue of any kind are possible." "I live in a new

world since I have read the \_Critique of Practical Reason . Things which

I believed never could be proved to me, \_e.g.\_, the idea of an absolute

freedom and duty, have been proved, and I feel the happier for it. It is

inconceivable what reverence for humanity, what power this philosophy gives

us, what a blessing it is for an age in which the citadels of morality

had been destroyed, and the idea of duty blotted out from all the

dictionaries!" A journey to Warsaw, whither he had been attracted by the

expectation of securing a position as a private tutor, soon afforded him

the opportunity of visiting at Königsberg the author of the system which

had effected so radical a transformation in his convictions. His rapidly

written treatise, \_Essay toward a Critique of All Revelation , attained the

end to which its inception was due by gaining for its author a favorable

reception from the honored master. Kant secured for Fichte a tutor's

position in Dantzic, and a publisher for his maiden work. When this

appeared, at Easter, 1792, the name of its author was by oversight omitted

from the title page, together with the preface, which had been furnished

after the rest of the book; and as the anonymous work was universally

ascribed to Kant (whose religious philosophy was at this time eagerly

looked for), the young writer became famous at a stroke as soon as the

error was explained. A second edition was issued as early as the following year.

After his marriage in Zurich, where he had completed several political

treatises (the address,  $\_$ Reclamation of the Freedom of Thought from the

Princes of Europe, who have hitherto suppressed it, Heliopolis in the Last

Year of the Old Darkness\_, and the two \_Hefte, Contributions toward the

Correction of the Public Judgment on the French Revolution , 1793), Fichte

accepted, in 1794, a call to Jena, in place of Reinhold, who had gone to

Kiel, and whose popularity was soon exceeded by his own. The same year saw

the birth of the \_Wissenschaftslehre\_. His stay in Jena was embittered by

conflicts with the clergy, who took offense at his ethical lectures ( On

the Vocation of the Scholar\_) held on Sunday mornings (though not at an

hour which interfered with church service), and with the students, who,

after they had been untrue to their decision--which they had formed as a

result of these lectures -- to dissolve their societies or orders, gave vent

to their spite by repeatedly smashing the windows of Fichte's residence.

Accordingly he took leave of absence, and spent the summer of 1795 in

Osmannstädt. The years 1796-98, in which, besides the two \_Introductions to

the Science of Knowledge\_, the \_Natural Right\_ and the \_Science of Ethics\_

(one of the most all important works in German philosophical literature)

appeared, mark the culmination of Fichte's famous labors. The so-called

atheistic controversy[1] resulted in Fichte's departure from Jena. The

\_Philosophisches Journal\_, which since 1797 had been edited by Fichte in

association with Niethammer, had published an article by Magister Forberg,

rector at Saalfeld, entitled "The Development of the Concept of Religion,"

and as a conciliating introduction to this a short essay by Fichte, "On the

Ground of our Belief in a Divine Government of the World."[2] For this

it was confiscated by the Dresden government on the charge of containing

atheistical matter, while other courts were summoned to take like action.

In Weimar hopes were entertained of an amicable adjustment of the matter.

But when Fichte, after publishing two vindications[3] couched in vehement

language, had in a private letter uttered the threat that he would answer

with his resignation any censure proceeding from the University Senate, not

only was censure for indiscretion actually imposed, but his (threatened)

resignation accepted.

[Footnote 1: Cf. Karl August Hase, \_Jenaisches Fichtebüchlein\_, 1856.]

[Footnote 2: It is a mistake, Fichte writes here, referring to the

conclusion of Forberg's article ("Is there a God? It is and remains

uncertain," etc.), to say that it is doubtful whether there is a God or

not. That there is a moral order of the world, which assigns to each

rational individual his determined place and counts on his work, is most

certain, nay, it is the ground of all other certitude. The living and

operative moral order \_(ordo ordinans)\_ is itself God; we need no other

God, and can conceive no other. There is no ground in reason for going

beyond this world order to postulate a particular being as its cause.

Whoever ascribes personality and consciousness to this particular being

makes it finite; consciousness belongs only to the individual, limited ego.

And it is allowable to state this frankly and to beat down the prattle of

the schools, in order that the true religion of joyous well-doing may lift up its head.

[Footnote 3: \_Appeal to the Public\_, and \_Formal Defense against the Charge

of Atheism\_, 1799. The first of these maintains that Fichte's standpoint

and that of his opponents are related as duty and advantage, sensible and

suprasensible, and that the substantial God of his accusers, to be derived

from the sensibility, is, as personified fate, as the distributer of all

happiness and unhappiness to finite beings, a miserable fetich.

Going to Berlin, Fichte found a friendly government, a numerous public for

his lectures, and a stimulating circle of friends in the romanticists, the

brothers Schlegel, Tieck, Schleiermacher, etc. In the first years of

his Berlin residence there appeared \_The Vocation of Man. The Exclusive

Commercial State\_, 1800; \_The Sun-clear Report to the Larger Public on the

Essential Nature of the New Philosophy\_, and the \_Answer to Reinhold\_,

1801. Three works, which were the outcome of his lectures and were

published in the year 1806 \_(Characteristics of the Present Age, The Nature

of the Scholar, Way to the Blessed Life or Doctrine of Religion) , form a

connected whole. In the summer of 1805 Fichte filled a professorship at

Erlangen, and later, after the outbreak of the war, he occupied for a short

time a chair at Königsberg, finding a permanent university position at the

foundation of the University of Berlin in 1810. His glowing Addresses to

the German Nation\_, 1808, which essentially aided in arousing the national

spirit, have caused his name to live as one of the greatest of orators

and most ardent of patriots in circles of the German people where his

philosophical importance cannot be understood. His death in 1814 was also a

result of unselfish labor in the service of the Fatherland. He succumbed to

a nervous fever contracted from his wife, who, with self-sacrifice equal

to his own, had shared in the care of the wounded, and who had brought the

contagion back with her from the hospital. On his monument is inscribed

the beautiful text, "The teachers shall shine as the brightness of the

firmament, and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars that

shine forever and ever." Forberg in his journal records this estimate: The

leading trait in Fichte's character is his absolute integrity. All his

words are weighty and important. His principles are stern and little

modified by affability. The spirit of his philosophy is proud and

courageous, one which does not so much lead as possess us and carry us

along. His philosophemes are inquiries in which we see the truth arise

before our eyes, and which just for this reason lay the foundations of science and conviction.

The philosopher's son, Immanuel Hermann Fichte (his own name was Johann

Gottlieb), wrote a biography of his father (1830; 2d ed., 1862), and

supervised the publication of both the \_Posthumous Works\_ (1834-35, 3

vols.) and the \_Collected Works\_ (1845-46, 8 vols.). The

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simple and
luminous Facts of Consciousness of 1811, or 1817 (not
the lecture of 1813
with the same title), is especially valuable as an
introduction to the
system. Among the many redactions of the
Wissenschaftslehre, the
epoch-making Foundation of the whole Science of
Knowledge , 1794, with
the two Introductions to the Science of Knowledge,
1797, takes the first
rank, while of the practical works the most important
are the Foundation
of Natural Right according to the Principles of the
Science of Knowledge ,
1796, and the System of the Science of Ethics according
to the Principles
of the Science of Knowledge , 1798, and next to these
the Lectures on
the Theory of the State , 1820 (delivered in 1813).[1]
[Footnote 1: At the same time as J.H. Löwe's book Die
Philosophie
Fichtes , 1862, there appeared in celebration of the
centenary of Fichte's
birthyear, or birthday, a large number of minor essays
and addresses by
Friedrich Harms, A.L. Kym, Trendelenburg, Franz Hoffman,
Karl Heyder, F.C.
Lott, Karl Köstlin, J.B. Meyer, and others (cf.
Reichlin-Meldegg in vol.
xlii. of the Zeitschrift für Philosophie ). Lasson has
written, 1863, on
Fichte's relation to Church and state, Zeller on Fichte
as a political
thinker ( Vorträge und Abhandlungen , 1865), and F.
Zimmer on his
philosophy of religion. Among foreign works we may note
Adamson's Fichte,
1881, and the English translations of several of
Fichte's works by Kroeger
[ Science of Knowledge , 1868; Science of Rights ,
1869--both also, 1889]
and William Smith [ Popular Writings , 4th ed., 1889;
also Everett's
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\_Fichte's Science of Knowledge\_ (Griggs's Philosophical Classics, 1884),

and several translations in the \_Journal of Speculative Philosophy\_,

including one of \_The Facts of Consciousness .-- TR.]]

## %1. The Science of Knowledge.%

%(a) The Problem.%--In Fichte's judgment Kant did not succeed in carrying

through the transformation in thought which it was his aim to effect,

because the age did not understand the spirit of his philosophy. This

spirit, and with it the great service of Kant, consists in transcendental

idealism\_, which by the doctrine that objects conform themselves to

representations, not representations to objects, draws philosophy away from

external objects and leads it back into ourselves. We have followed the

letter, he thinks, instead of the spirit of Kant, and because of a few

passages with a dogmatic ring, whose references to a given matter, the

thing in itself, and the like, were intended only as preliminary, have

overlooked the numberless others in which the contrary is distinctly

maintained. Thus the interpreters of Kant, using their own prejudices as a

criterion, have read into him exactly that which he sought to refute, and

have made the destroyer of all dogmatism himself a dogmatist; thus in the

Kantianism of the Kantians there has sprung up a marvelous combination of

crude dogmatism and uncompromising idealism. Though such an absurd

mingling of entirely heterogeneous elements may be excused in the case of

interpreters and successors, who have had to construct for themselves the

guiding principle of the whole from their study of the critical writings,

yet we cannot assume it in the author of the system, unless we believe the

\_Critique of Pure Reason\_ the result of the strangest chance, and not the

work of intellect. Two men only, Beck, the teacher of the Standpoint, and

Jacobi, the clearest mind of the century, are to be mentioned with respect

as having risen above the confusion of the time to the perception that Kant

teaches idealism, that, according to him, the object is not given, but made.

Besides the perspicuity which would have prevented these misunderstandings,

Fichte misses something further in Kant's work.

Considered as a system

Kant's expositions were incomplete; and, on his own confession, his aim

was not to furnish the science itself, but only the foundation and the

materials for it. Therefore, although the Kantian philosophy is established

as far as its inner content is concerned, there is still need of earnest

work to systematize the fragments and results which he gives into a firmly

connected and impregnable whole. The

Wissenschaftslehre takes this

completion of idealism for its mission. It cannot solve the problem by a

commentary on the Kantian writings, nor by the correction and addition of

particulars, but only by restoring the whole at a stroke. He alone finds

the truth who new creates it in himself, independently and in his own way.

Thus Fichte's system contains the same view of the matter as the critical

system--the author is aware, runs the preface to the programme, On the

Concept of the Science of Knowledge , 1794, "that he

never will be able to

say anything at which Kant has not hinted, immediately or mediately,

more or less clearly, before him, "--but in his procedure he is entirely

independent of the Kantian exposition. We shall first raise the question,

What in the Kantian philosophy is in need of completion? and, secondly,

What method must be adopted in completing it?

Kant discusses the laws of intelligence when they are already applied to

objects, without enlightening us concerning the ground of these laws. He

derived the pure concepts (the laws of substantiality, of causality, etc.)

from (logic, and thus mediately from) experience instead of deducing

them from the nature of intelligence; similarly he never furnished

this deduction for the forms of intuition, space and time. In order to

understand that intelligence, and why intelligence, must act in just this

way (must think just by means of these categories), we must prove, and not

merely, with Kant, assert, that these functions or forms are really laws of

thought--or, what amounts to the same thing, that they are conditions of

self-consciousness. Again, even if it be granted that Kant has explained

the properties and relations of things (that they appear in space and time,

and that their accidents must be referred to substances), the question

still remains unanswered, Whence comes the matter which is taken up into

these forms? So long as the whole object is not made to arise before the

eyes of the thinker, dogmatism is not driven out of its last corner. The

thing in itself is, like the rest, only a thought in the ego. If thus

the antithesis between the form and the matter of cognition undergoes

modification, so, further, the allied distinction between understanding and

sensibility must, as Reinhold accurately recognized, be reduced to a common

principle and receptivity be conceived as self-limiting spontaneity. In

his practical philosophy also Kant left much unfinished. The categorical

imperative is susceptible of further deduction, it is not the principle

itself, but a conclusion from the true principle, from the injunction to

absolute \_self-dependence on the part of reason\_; moreover, the nature of

our consciousness of the moral law must be more thoroughly discussed, and

in order to gain a real, instead of a merely formal, ethics the relation of

this law to natural impulse. Finally, Kant never discussed the foundation

of philosophy as a whole, but always separated its theoretical from its

practical side, and Reinhold also did nothing to remove this dualism. In

short, some things that Kant only asserted or presupposed can and must be

proved, some that he kept distinct must be united. In what way are both to be accomplished?

Since correct inferences from correct premises yield correct results, and

correct inference is easy to secure, everything depends on the correct

point of departure. If we neglect this and consider only the process and

the results of inference, there are two consistent systems: the dogmatic

or realistic course of thought, which seeks to derive representations from

things; and the idealistic, which, conversely, seeks to derive being from

thought. Now, no matter how consistently dogmatism may

proceed (and when it

does so it becomes, like the system of Spinoza, materialism and fatalism or

determinism, maintaining that all is nature, and all goes on mechanically;

treats the spirit as a thing among others, and denies its metaphysical and

moral independence, its immateriality and freedom), it may be shown to

be false, because it starts from a false principle. Thought can never be

derived from being, because it is not contained therein; from being only

being can proceed, and never representation. Being, however, can be derived

from thought, for consciousness is also being; nay, it is more than this,

it is conscious being. And as consciousness contains both being and a

knowledge of this being, idealism is superior to realism, because idealism

includes the latter as a moment in itself, and hence can explain it, though

it is not explicable by it. Dogmatism makes the mistake of going beyond

consciousness or the ego, and working with empty, merely formal concepts.  ${\tt A}$ 

concept is empty when nothing actual corresponds to it, or no intuition

can be subsumed under it (here it is to be noted that, besides sensuous

intuition, there is an intellectual intuition also; an example is found in

the ego as a self-intuiting being). Philosophy, indeed, may abstract and

must abstract, must rise above that which is given--for how could she

explain life and particular knowledge if she assumed no higher standpoint

than her object?--but true abstraction is nothing other than the separation

of factors which in experience always present themselves together; it

analyzes empirical consciousness in order to reconstruct it from its

elements, it causes empirical consciousness to arise before our eyes, it

is a pragmatic \_history of consciousness\_. Such abstraction, undertaken in

order to a genetic consideration of the ego, does not go beyond experience,

but penetrates into the depths of experience, is not transcendent, but

transcendental, and, since it remains in close touch with that which is

intuitable, yields a real philosophy in contrast to all merely formal philosophy.

These theoretical advantages of idealism are supplemented by momentous

reasons of a practical kind, which determine the choice between the two

systems, besides which none other is possible. The moral law says: Thou

shalt be self-dependent. If I ought to be so I must be able to be so; but

if I were matter I would not be able. Thus idealism proves itself to be the

ethical mode of thought, while the opposite mode shows that those who favor

it have not raised themselves to that independence of all that is external

which is morally enjoined, for in order to be able to know ourselves free

we must have made ourselves free.[1] Thus the philosophy which a man

chooses depends on what sort of a man he is. If, on the other hand, the

categorical imperative calls for belief in the reality of the external

world and of other minds, this is nothing against idealism. For idealism

does not deny the realism of life, but explains it as a necessary, though

not a final, mode of intuition. The dogmatic mode of thought is merely an

explanation from the standpoint of common consciousness, and for idealism,

as the only view which is both scientifically and

practically satisfactory,

this explanation itself needs explaining. Realism and idealism, like

natural impulse and moral will in the sphere of action, are both grounded

in reason. But idealism is the true standpoint, because it is able to

comprehend and explain the opposing theory, while the converse is not the case.

[Footnote 1: Cf. O. Liebmann (\_Ueber den individuellen Beweis für die

Freiheit des Willens p, 131. 1866)\_ "Here we discover the noteworthy point

where theoretical and practical philosophy actually pass over into each

other. For this principle results: In order to carry out the individual

proof for the freedom of the will, I must do my duty."]

The nature, the goal, and the methods of the Science of Knowledge have now

been determined. It is genuine, thoroughgoing idealism, which raises the

Kantian philosophy to the rank of an evident science by deducing its

premises from a first principle which is immediately certain, and by

removing the twofold dualism of intuition and thought, of knowledge and

volition, viz., by proving both contraries acts of one and the same eqo.

While Reinhold had sought a supreme truth as a fundamental principle of

unity, without which the doctrine of knowledge would lack the systematic

form essential to science, while Beck had interpreted the spirit of the

Kantian philosophy in an idealistic sense, and Jacobi had demanded the

elimination of the thing in itself, all these desires combined are

fulfilled in Fichte's doctrine, and at the same time the results of the

Critique of Reason are given that evidence which Aenesidemus-Schulze had

missed in them. As an answer to the question, "How is knowledge brought

about?" (as well the knowledge of common sense as that given in the

particular sciences), "how is experience possible?", and as a construction

of common consciousness as this manifests itself in life and in the

particular sciences, Fichteanism adopts the name Science of Knowledge,

being distinguished from the particular sciences by the fact that they

discuss the voluntary, and it the necessary,

representations or actions of

the spirit. (The representation of a triangle or a circle is a free one, it

may be omitted; the representation of space in general is a necessary one,

from which it is impossible for us to abstract.) How does intelligence

come to have sensations, to intuit space and time, and to form just such

categories (thing and property, cause and effect, and not others quite

different)? While Kant correctly described these functions of the intuiting

and thinking spirit, and showed them actual, they must further be proven,

be shown necessary or deduced. Deduced whence? From the "deed-acts"

(\_Thathandlungen\_) of the ego which lie at the basis of all consciousness,

and the highest of which are formulated in three principles.

%(b) The Three Principles.%--At the portal of the Science of Knowledge we

are met not by an assertion, but by a summons--a summons to

self-contemplation. Think anything whatever and observe what thou dost,

and of necessity must do, in thinking. Thou wilt discover that thou dost

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never think an object without thinking thyself therewith, that it is
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absolutely impossible for thee to abstract from thine ego. And second,

consider what thou dost when thou dost think thine "ego." This means

to affirm or posit one's self, to be a subject-object. The nature of

self-consciousness is the identity of the representing [subject] and

the represented [object]. The pure ego is not a fact, but an original

doing, the act of being for self (\_Fürsichsein\_), and the (philosophical,

or--as seems to be the case according to some passages-even the common)

consciousness of this doing an intellectual intuition; through this we

become conscious of the deed-act which is ever (though unconsciously)

performing. This is the meaning of the first of the principles: "The \_ego\_

posits originally and absolutely its own being," or, more briefly: The ego

posits itself; more briefly still: I am. The nature of the ego consists in

positing itself as existing.[1] Since, besides this self-cogitation of

the ego, an op-position is found among the facts of empirical

consciousness (think only of the principle of contradiction), and yet,

besides the ego, there is nothing which could be opposed, we must assume

as a second principle: To the ego there is absolutely opposited

a \_non-ego\_. These two principles must be united, and this can be

accomplished only by positing the contraries (ego and non-ego), since they

are both in the ego, as reciprocally limiting or partially sublating

one another, that is, each as \_divisible\_ (capable of quantitative

determination). Accordingly the third principle runs:

"The eqo opposes in the ego a divisible non-ego to the divisible ego." From these principles Fichte deduces the three laws of thought, identity, contradiction, and sufficient reason, and the three categories of quality-reality, negation, and limitation or determination. Instead of following him in these labors, we may emphasize the significance of his view of the ego as pure activity without an underlying substratum, with which he carries dynamism over from the Kantian philosophy of nature to metaphysics. We must not conceive the ego as something which must exist before it can put forth its activities. Doing is not a property or consequence of being, but being is an accident and effect of doing. All substantiality is derivative, activity is primal; being arises from doing . The ego is nothing more than self-position; it exists not only for itself (für sich), but also through itself ( durch sich ). [Footnote 1: The ego spoken of in the first of the principles, the eqo as the object of intellectual intuition and as the ground and creator of all being, is, as the second Introduction to the Science of Knowledge clearly announces, not the individual, but the I-ness (Ichheit) (which is to be presupposed as the prius of the manifold of representation, and which is exalted above the opposition of subject and object), mentality in general, eternal reason, which is common to all and the same in all, which is present in all thinking and at the basis thereof, and to which particular persons stand related merely as accidents, as instruments, as special

expressions, destined more and more to lose themselves in the universal

form of reason. But, further still, a distinction must be made between the

absolute ego as intuition (as the form of I-ness), from which the Science

of Knowledge starts, and the ego as Idea (as the supreme goal of practical

endeavor) with which it ends. In neither is the ego conceived as

individual; in the former the I-ness is not yet determined to the point of

individuality, in the latter individuality has disappeared, Fichte is right

when he thinks it remarkable that "a system whose beginning and end and

whole nature is aimed at forgetfulness of individuality in the theoretical

sphere and denial of it in the practical sphere" should be "called egoism."

And yet not only opponents, but even adherents of Fichte, as is shown by

\_Friedrich Schlegel's\_ philosophy of genius, have, by confusing the pure

and the empirical ego, been guilty of the mistake thus censured. On the

philosophy of the romanticists cf. Erdmann's \_History\_, vol. ii. §§ 314,

315; Zeller, p. 562 \_seq\_.; and R. Haym, \_Die Romantische Schule\_, 1870.]

The actions expressed in the three principles are never found pure in

experience, nor do they represent isolated acts of the ego. Intelligence

can think nothing without thinking itself therewith; it is equally

impossible for it to think "I am" without at the same time thinking

something else which is not itself; subject and object are inseparable.

It is rather true that the acts of position described are one single,

all-inclusive act, which forms only the first member in a connected system

of pre-conscious actions, through which consciousness is produced, and the

complete investigation of whose members constitutes the further business of

the Science of Knowledge as a theory of the nature of reason. In this the

Science of Knowledge employs a method which, by its rhythm of analysis and

synthesis, development and reconciliation of opposites, became the model of

Hegel's dialectic method. The synthesis described in the third principle,

although it balances thesis and antithesis and unites them in itself, still

contains contrary elements, in order to whose combination a new synthesis

must be sought. In this, in turn, the analytic discovery and the synthetic

adjustment of a contrariety is repeated, etc., etc. The original synthesis,

moreover, prescribes a division of the inquiry into two parts, one

theoretical and the other practical. For it contains the following

principles: The ego posits itself as limited by the non-ego--it functions

cognitively; and: The ego posits itself as determining the non-ego--it

functions volitionally and actively.

%(c) The Theoretical Ego.%--In positing itself as determined by the

non-ego, the ego is at once passive (affected by something other than

itself) and active (it posits its own limitation). This is possible only as

it posits reality in itself only in part, and transfers to the non-ego so

much as it does not posit in itself. Passivity is diminished activity,

negation of the totality of reality. From reflection on this relation

between ego and non-ego spring the categories of reciprocal determination,

of causality (the non-ego as the cause of the passion of

the eqo), and

substantiality (this passion merely the self-limitation of the ego).

The conflict between the causality of the non-ego (by which the ego is

affected) and the substantiality of the ego (in which and the activity of

which all reality is contained) is resolved only by the assumption of two

activities (or, rather, of two opposite directions of one activity) in the

ego, one of which (centrifugal, expansive) strives infinitely outward while

the other (centripetal or contractile) sets a bound to the former, and

drives the ego back into itself, whereupon another excursus follows, and a

new limitation and return, etc. With every repetition of this double act

of production and reflection a special class of representations arises.

Through the first limitation of the in itself unlimited activity

"sensation" arises (as a product of the "productive imagination"). Because

the ego produces this unconsciously, it appears to be given, brought about

by influence from without. The second stage,

"intuition," is reached when

the ego reflects on sensation, when it opposes to itself something foreign

which limits it. Thirdly, by reflection on intuition an "image" of that

which is intuited is constructed, and, as such, distinguished from a real

thing to which the image corresponds; at this point the categories and the

forms of intuition, space and time, appear, which thus arise along with

the object.[1] The fourth stadium is "understanding," which steadies the

fluctuating intuition into a concept, realizes the object, and looks upon

it as the cause of the intuition. Fifthly, "judgment" makes its appearance

as the faculty of free reflection and abstraction, or the power to consider

a definite content or to abstract from it. As judgment is itself the

condition of the bound reflection of the understanding, so it points in

turn to its condition, to the sixth and highest stage of intelligence,

"reason," by means of which we are able to abstract from all objects

whatever, while reason itself, pure self-consciousness, is that from

which abstraction is never possible. It is only in the highest stage that

consciousness or a representation of representation takes place. And at the

culmination of the theoretical ego the point of transition to the practical

ego appears. Here the ego becomes aware that in positing itself as

determined by the non-ego it has only limited itself, and therefore is

itself the ground of the whole content of consciousness; here it apprehends

itself as determining the non-ego or as acting, and recognizes as its chief

mission to impress the form of the ego as far as possible on the non-ego,

and ever to extend the boundary further.

[Footnote 1: The object is a product of the ego only for the observer, not

for the observed ego itself, to which, from this standpoint of imagination,

it appears rather as a thing in itself independent of the ego and affecting

it. Further, it must so appear, because the ego, in its after reflection

on its productive activity, and just by this reflection, transforms the

productive action considered into a fixed and independent product found existing.]

The "deduction of representation" whose outline has just

been given was the

first example (often imitated in the school of Schelling and Hegel) of a

\_constructive psychology\_, which, from the mission or the concept of the

soul--in this case from the nature of self-consciousness--deduces the

various psychical functions as a system of actions, each of which is in

its place implied by the rest, as it in turn presupposes them. This is

distinguished from the sensationalistic psychology, which is also genetic

(cf. pp. 245-250), as well as from the mechanical or associational

psychology, which likewise excludes the idea of an isolated coexistence of

mental faculties, by the fact that it demands a new manifestation of the

soul-ground in order to the ascent from one member of the series to

the next higher. It is also distinguished from sensationalism by its

teleological point of view. For no matter how much Fichte, too, may speak

of the mechanism of consciousness, it is plain to the reader of the

theoretical part of his system not only that he makes this mechanism work

in the service of an end, but also that he finds its origin in purposive

activity of the ego; while the practical part gives further and decisive

confirmation of the fact. The danger and the defect of such a constructive

treatment of psychology--as we may at once remark for all later

attempts--lies in imagining that the task of mental science has been

accomplished and all its problems solved when each particular activity of

the ego has been assigned its mission and work for the whole, and its place

in the system, without any indication of the means through which this

destination can be fulfilled.

%(d) The Practical Eqo.%--The deduction of representation has shown how (through what unconscious acts of the eqo) the different stages of cognition, the three sensuous and the three intellectual functions of representation, come into being. It has proved incapable, however, of giving any account of the way in which the ego comes at one point to arrest its activity, which tends infinitely outward, and to turn it back upon itself. We know, indeed, that this first limitation, through which sensation arises, and on which as a basis the understanding, by continued reflection constructs the objective world, was necessary in order that consciousness and knowledge might arise. If the ego did not limit its infinite activity neither representation nor an objective world would exist. But why, then, are there such things as consciousness, representation, and a world? From the standpoint of the theoretical eqo this problem, "Whence the original non-ego or opposition ( Anstoss ), which impels the ego back upon itself?" cannot be solved, since it is only through the opposition that it itself arises. The "deduction of the opposition," which the theoretical part of the Science of Knowledge did not furnish, is to be looked for from the practical part. The primacy of practical reason, already emphasized by Kant, gives us the answer: The ego limits itself and is theoretical, in order to be practical . The whole machinery of representation and the represented world exists only to furnish us the possibility of fulfilling our duty. We

are intelligence in order that we may be able to be will.

Action, action--that is the end of our existence. Action is giving form to

matter, it is the alteration or elaboration of an object, the conquest of

an impediment, of a limitation. We cannot act unless we have something

in, on, and against which to act. The world of sensation and intuition is

nothing but a means for attaining our ethical destiny, it is "the material

of our duty under the form of sense." The theoretical ego posits an

object (\_Gegenstand\_) that the practical ego may
experience resistance

(\_Widerstand\_). No action is possible without a world as the object of

action; no world is possible without a consciousness which represents it;

no consciousness possible without reflection of the ego on itself; no

reflection without limitation, without an opposition or non-ego. The

\_Anstoss\_ is deduced. The ego posits a limit (is theoretical) in order (as

practical) to overcome it. Our duty is the only \_per se (Ansich)\_ of

the phenomenal world, the only truly real element in it: "Things are in

themselves that which we ought to make of them." Objectivity exists only to

be more and more sublated, that is, to be so worked up that the activity

of the ego may in it become evident. -- The same ground of explanation which

reveals the necessity of an external nature enables us to understand why

the one infinite ego (the universal life or the Deity, as Fichte puts it in

his later works) divides into the many empirical egos or individuals, why

it does not carry out its plan immediately, but through finite spirits as

its organs. Action is possible only under the form of the individual, only

in individuals are consciousness and morality possible. Without resistance,

no action; without conflict, no morality. Individuality, it is true, is to

be overcome and destroyed in moral endeavor; but in order to this it must

have existed. Virtue is a conquest over external \_and internal\_ nature.

A gradation of practical functions corresponding to the series of

theoretical activities leads from feeling and striving (longing and

desire) through the system of impulses (the impulse to representation or

reflection, to production, to satisfaction) up to moral will or the impulse

to harmony with self, which stands opposed to the natural impulses as the

categorical imperative. The practical ego mediates between the theoretical

and the absolute ego. The ego ought to be infinite and self-dependent, but

finds itself finite and dependent on a non-ego--a contradiction which is

resolved by the ego becoming practical, by the fact that in ever increasing

measure it subdues nature to itself, and by such increasing extension

of the boundary draws nearer and ever nearer to the realization of its  $% \left( 1\right) =\left( 1\right) +\left( 1\right) +\left($ 

destination, to become absolute ego.

### %2. The Science of Ethics and of Right.%

The moral law demands the control of the sensuous impulse by the pure

impulse. If the former aims at comfortable ease and enjoyment, the

latter is directed toward satisfaction with one's self, to endeavor and

self-dependence. (Enjoyment is inevitable, it is true,

as satisfaction

where any impulse whatever is carried out; only it must not form the end

of action.) Morality is activity for its own sake, the radical evil--from

which only a miracle can deliver us, but a miracle which we must ourselves

perform--is inertness, lack of will to rise above the natural

determinateness of the impulse of self-preservation to the clear

consciousness of duty and of freedom. For the moral man there is no

resting; each end attained becomes for him the impulse to renewed endeavor,

each task fulfilled leads him to a fresh one. Become self-dependent, act

autonomously, make thyself free; let every action have a place in a series,

in the continuation of which the ego must become independent. To this

formal and universal norm, again, there is added a special injunction for

each individual. Each individual spirit has its definite mission assigned

to it by the world-order: each ought to do that which it alone should and

can do. Always fulfill thy moral vocation, thy special destination.[1] Or

both in popular combination: Never act contrary to conscience.

[Footnote 1: Although Fichte was justly charged with surpassing even the

abstractness of the Kantian ethics with his bald moral principle, the

self-dependence of the ego, he deserves praise for having given ethics a

concrete content of indisputable soundness and utility by his introduction

of Jacobi's idea of purified individuality.]

The elevation to freedom is accomplished gradually. At first freedom consists only in the consciousness of the natural

impulse, then follows

a breaking away from this by means of maxims, which in the beginning

are maxims of individual happiness. Later on a blind enthusiasm for

self-dependence arises and produces an heroic spirit, which would rather be

generous than just, which bestows sympathy more readily than respect; true

morality, however, does not arise until, with constant attention to the law

and continued watchfulness of self, duty is done for its own sake. No man

is for a moment secure of his morality without continued endeavor. In order

to deliverance from the original sin of inertness and its train, cowardice

and falsity, men stand in need of examples, such as have been given them in

the founders of religions, to construe for them the riddle of freedom. The

necessary enlightenment concerning moral conviction is given by the Church,

whose symbols are not to be looked upon as dogmatic propositions, but only

as means for the proclamation of the eternal verities, and which, like the

state (for both are institutions based on necessity), has for its object to

make itself unnecessary as time goes on.

The system of duties distinguishes four classes of duties on the basis

of the twofold opposition of universal (non-transferable) and particular

(transferable) duties, and of unconditional duties (directed to the whole)

and conditional duties (directed toward self). These four classes are the

duties of self-preservation, of class, of noninterference with others,

and of vocation. The lower calling includes the producers, artisans, and

tradesmen, whose action terminates directly on nature; and the higher,

the scholars, teachers of the people or clergy, artists, and government

officials, who work directly on the community of rational beings. Fichte's

thoughtful and sympathetically written discussion of marriage is in

pleasant contrast to the bald, purely legal view of this relation adopted by Kant.

\_Natural right\_ is for Fichte, as for Kant, whose theory of right,

moreover, appeared later than Fichte's, entirely independent of ethics,

and distinguished from the latter by its exclusive reference to external

conduct instead of to the disposition and the will. The rule of right gains

from the moral law, it is true, new sanction for conscience, but cannot be

derived from the law. -- The concept of right is to be deduced as a necessary

act of the ego, \_i.e.\_, to be shown a condition of self-consciousness. The

ego must posit itself as an individual, and can accomplish this only by

positing itself in a relation of right to other finite rational beings;

without a thou, no I. A finite rational being cannot posit itself without

ascribing to itself a free activity in an external sense-world; and it

cannot effect this latter unless (1) it ascribes free activity to other

beings as well, hence not without assuming other finite rational beings

outside itself, and positing itself as standing in \_the relation of right\_

to them; and unless (2) it ascribes to itself a material body and posits

this as standing under the influence of a person outside it. But, further,

Fichte considers it possible to deduce the particular constitution both of

the external world and of the human body (as the sphere

of all free actions

possible to the person). In the former there must be present a tough,

durable matter capable of resistance, and light and air in order to the

possibility of intercourse between spirits; while the latter must be an

organized, articulated nature-product, furnished with senses, capable of

infinite determination, and adapted to all conceivable motions.

If a community of free beings, such as has been shown the condition of

individual self-consciousness, is to be possible, the following must hold

as the law of right: So limit thy freedom that others may be free along

with thee. This law is conditioned on the lawful behavior of others. Where

this is lacking, where my fellow does not recognize and treat me as a free,

rational being, the right of coercion comes in; coercion, however, is not

to be exercised by the individual himself--since then there would be no

guaranty either for its successful exercise or for the non-violation of the

legal limit--but devolves upon the state. The state takes its origin in

the common will of all to unite for the safeguarding of their rights, and

determines by positive laws (intermediate between the law of right and

legal judgments) what shall be considered rights. Thus there result three

subjects for natural right: original rights or the sum of that which

pertains to freedom or personality (inviolability of the body and of

property), the right of coercion, and political right. The aim of

punishment is the reform of the evil doer and the deterrence of others.

Fichte is in agreement with Kant concerning the

principle of popular

sovereignty (Rousseau) and the exercise of the political power through

representatives; but not so concerning the guaranties against the violation

of the fundamental law of the state. Instead of the division of powers

recommended by Kant he demands supervision of the rulers of the state by

ephors, who, themselves without any legislative or executive authority,

shall suspend the rulers in case they violate the law, and call them to

account before the community. Every constitution in which the rulers

are not responsible is despotic. Fichte did not continue loyal to this

principle, that the state is merely a legal institution. He not only

demands a state organization of labor by which everyone shall be placed in

a position to live from his work, in the \_Natural Right\_ and the \_Exclusive

Commercial State\_, but, in his posthumous \_Theory of Right , 1812, he makes

it the chief duty of the state to lead men, by the moral and intellectual

training of the people, to do from insight what they have hitherto done

from traditional belief. Through the education of the people the empirical

state is gradually to transform itself into the rational state.

%3. Fichte's Second Period: his View of History and his
Theory of
Religion.%

Fichte's transfer to Berlin brought him into more intimate contact with

the world, and along with new experiences and new emotions gave him new

problems. While a vigorously developing religious sentiment turned his

speculation to the relation of the individual ego to the primal source of

spiritual life, empirical reality also acquired greater significance for

him, and the intellectual, moral, and political situation of the time

especially attracted his attention. The last required philosophical

interpretation, demanded at once inquiry into its historical conditions and

a consideration of the means by which the glaring contradiction between

the condition of the nation at the time and the ideals of reason could be

diminished. The \_Addresses to the German Nation\_ outlined a plan for a

moral reformation of the world, to start with the education of the German

people;[1] while the \_Characteristics of the Present
Age , which had

preceded the \_Addresses\_, defined the place of the age
in the general

development of humanity. The scheme of historical periods given in

the \_Characteristics\_ and similarly in the \_Theory of the State\_

(innocence--sin--supremacy of reason, with intermediate stages between each

two) is interesting as a forerunner of Hegel's undertaking.

[Footnote 1: "Among all nations you are the one in whom the germ of human

perfection is most decidedly present." The spiritual regeneration of

mankind must proceed from the German people, for they are the one original

or primitive people of the new age, the only one which has preserved its

living language--French is a dead tongue--and has raised itself to true

creative poetry and free science. The ground of distinction between

Germanism and the foreign spirit lies in the question, whether we believe

in an original element in man, in the freedom, infinite perfectibility, and

eternal progress of our race, or put no faith in all these.]

History is produced through the interaction of the two principles, faith

and understanding, which are related to each other as law and freedom, and

strives toward a condition in which these two shall be so reconciled that

faith shall have entirely passed over into the form of understanding, shall

have been transformed into insight, and understanding shall have taken up

the content of faith into itself. History begins with the coming together

of two original and primitive races, one of order or faith, and one of

freedom or understanding, neither of which would attain to an historical

development apart from the other. From the legal race the free race learns

respect for the law, as in turn it arouses in the former the impulse toward

freedom. The course of history divides into five periods. In the state

of "innocence" or of rational instinct that which is rational is done

unconsciously, out of natural impulse; in the state of "commencing sin" the

instinct for the good changes into an external compulsory authority,

the law of reason appears as a ruling power from without, which can be

disobeyed as well as obeyed. We ourselves live in the period of "completed

sinfulness," of absolute license and indifference to all truth, of

unlimited caprice and selfishness. But however far removed from the moral

ideal this age appears, in which the individual, freed from all restraints,

heeds naught except his egoistic desire, and in his care for his own

welfare forgets to labor for the universal, yet this ultimate goal, this

doing from free insight that which in the beginning was done out of blind

faith, cannot be attained unless authority shall have first been shaken off

and the individual become self-dependent. A few signs already betoken

the dawn of the fourth era, that of rational science or of "commencing

justification," in which truth shall be acknowledged supreme, and the

individual ego, at least as cognitive, shall submit itself to the generic

reason. Finally, with the era of rational art, or the state of "completed

justification and sanctification," wherein the will of the individual shall

entirely merge in life for the race, the end of the life of humanity

on earth--the free determination of all its relations according to

reason--will be fulfilled.

In the Jena period the religious life of the ego simply coincided for

Fichte with its practical life; piety coincided with moral conduct; the

Deity with the absolute ego, with the moral law, with the moral order of

the world. A change subsequently took place in his views on this point.

He experienced feelings which, at least in quality, were distinct from

readiness for moral action, no matter how intimately they are intertwined

with this, and no matter how little they can actually be separated from

it; \_religion\_ is possible neither without a
metaphysical belief in a

suprasensible world, nor without obedience to the moral law, yet in itself

it is not that belief nor this action, but the inner spirit which pervades

and animates all our thought and action -- it is life,

love, blessedness. And

as quiet blessedness is here distinguished from ceaseless action, so for

our thinker the inactive Deity, the self-identical life of the absolute,

separates from the active universal reason, which in its individual organs

advances from task to task. The earlier undivided and unique principle, the

absolute ego, divides into the \_Ichheit\_ (moral law, world-order), and an

absolute as the ground thereof. "The spirit (the ego, or, as Fichte now

prefers to say, knowledge) an image of God, the world an image of the

spirit." The active order of the world (the moral law which realizes

itself in individuals) the immediate, and objective reality the mediate,

revelation of the absolute!

Does this view of religion, which Fichte incorporates also in the later

expositions of the Science of Knowledge, indicate an abandonment and denial

of the earlier standpoint? The philosophy of Fichte's second period is a

new system--so judge the majority of the historians of philosophy. It is

not a transformation, but a completion of the earlier system; the doctrine

promulgated in Berlin continues to be idealistic, as that advanced in Jena

had itself been pantheistic -- this is the opinion of Fortlage and Harms,

in agreement with the philosopher himself and with his son. Kuno Fischer,

also, who shows a constant advance in the development of Fichteanism, a

gradual transition "without a break," may be counted among the minority who

hold that throughout his life Fichte taught but one system. We believe it

our duty to adhere to this latter view. The Science of Knowledge (the world

a product of the ego) enters as it is into the later form of the Fichtean

philosophy; the latter gives up none of the fundamental positions of the

former, but only adds to it a culmination, by which the appearance of

the building is altered, it is true, but not the edifice itself. In the

discussion of the question the following three have been emphasized as

the most important points of distinction between the two periods: In the

earlier system God is made equivalent to the absolute ego and the moral

order of the world, in the later he is separated from these and removed

beyond them; in the former the nature of God is described as activity,

in the latter, as being; in the one, action is designated as the highest

mission of man, in the other, blessed devotion to God. All three variations

of the later doctrine from the earlier may be admitted without giving up

the position that the former is only an extension of the latter and not

an essential modification of it (\_i.e.\_, in its teachings concerning the

relation of the ego and the world). Fichte experienced religious feelings

the philosophical outcome of which he worked into his system. He now knows

a first thing (the Deity as distinct from the absolute ego) and a last

thing (the inwardness of religious devotion to the world-ground), which he

had before not overlooked, much less denied, but combined in one with the

second (the absolute ego or the moral order of the world) and the one

before the last (moral action). It is incorrect to say that, in his later

doctrine, Fichte substituted the inactive absolute in place of the active

absolute ego, and the quiet blessedness of contemplation

in place of

ceaseless action. Not in place of these, but beyond them, while all

else remains as it was. The categorical imperative, the absolute ego or

knowledge is no longer God himself, but the first manifestation of God,

though a necessary revelation of him. Religion had previously been included

for Fichte in moral action; now fellowship with God goes beyond this,

though morality remains its indispensable condition and inseparable

companion. Finally, how to construe the previously avoided predicate,

being, in relation to the Deity, is shown by the no less frequent

designation of the absolute as the "Universal Life." The expression being,

which it must be confessed is ambiguous, here signifies in our opinion only

the quiet, self-identical activity of the absolute, in opposition to the

unresting, changeful activity of the world-order and its finite organs, not

that inert and dead being posited by the ego, the ascription of which to

the Deity Fichte had forbidden in his essay which had been charged with

atheism, not to speak of the existence-mode of a particular self-conscious

and personal being. Instead of speaking of a conversion of Fichte to

the position of his opponents, we might rather venture the paradoxical

assertion, that, when he characterizes the absolute as the only true being,

he intends to produce the same view in the mind of the reader as in his

earlier years, when he expressed himself against the application of the

concepts existence, substance, and conscious personality to God, on the

ground that they are categories of sense. The chief thing, at least,

remains unaltered: the opposition to a view of religion which transforms

the sublime and sacred teaching of Christianity "into an enervating

doctrine of happiness."

#### CHAPTER XI.

#### SCHELLING.

Friedrich Wilhelm Joseph (von) Schelling was born January 27, 1775, at

Leonberg (in Würtemberg), and died August 20, 1854, at the baths of Ragatz

(in Switzerland). In 1790-95 he attended the seminary at Tübingen, in

company with Hölderlin and Hegel, who were five years older than himself;

at seventeen he published a dissertation on the Fall of Man, and a

year later an essay on Religious Myths; and was called in 1798 from

Leipsic--where, after several treatises[1] in explanation of the Science

of Knowledge, he had issued, in 1797, the \_Ideas for a Philosophy of

Nature\_--to Jena. In the latter place he became acquainted with his future

wife, Caroline,[2] \_née\_ Michaëlis (1763-1809), widow of Böhmer and at this

time the brilliant wife of August Wilhelm Schlegel. From 1803 to 1806 he

served as professor in Würzburg; then followed two residences of fourteen

years each in Munich, separated by seven years in Erlangen: 1806-20 as

Member of the Academy of Sciences and General Secretary of the Academy of

the Plastic Arts (he received this latter position after delivering on the

king's birthday his celebrated address on "The Relation of the Plastic

Arts to Nature, " 1807); and 1827-41 as professor in the

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newly established
university, and President of the Academy of Sciences. In
1812 Schelling
married his second wife, Pauline Gotter. Besides various
journals[3] and
the works to be noticed later, two polemic treatises
should be mentioned,
the Exposition of the True Relation of the Philosophy
of Nature to the
Improved Doctrine of Fichte , 1806, in which his former
friend is charged
with plagiarism, and the Memorial of the Treatise on
Divine Things by Herr
Jacobi , 1812, which answers a bitter attack of Jacobi
still more bitterly.
From this on our philosopher, once so fond of writing,
becomes silent.[4]
The often promised issue of the positive philosophy,
which had already been
twice commenced in print (_The Ages of the World , 1815;
Mythological
Lectures , 1830), was both times suspended. Being called
to the Berlin
Academy by Frederick William IV., in order to
counterbalance the prevailing
Hegelianism, Schelling delivered lectures in the
university also (on
Mythology and Revelation), which he ceased, however,
when notes taken by
his hearers were printed without his consent.[5] His
collected works were
published in fourteen volumes (1856-61) under the care
of his son, K.E.A.
Schelling.[6]
[Footnote 1: On the Possibility of a Form of Philosophy
in General_, _On
the Ego as Principle of Philosophy, both in 1795;
Letters on Dogmatism
and Criticism_, 1796; _Essays in Explanation of the
Science of Knowledge ,
1797.1
[Footnote 2: Karoline , Letters, edited by G. Waitz,
1871.]
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[Footnote 3: Kritisches Journal der Philosophie (with
Hegel), 1802;
Zeitschrift für spekulative Physik , 1800 (continued as
Neue Zeitschrift
für spekulative Physik ); Jahrbücher der Medizin als
Wissenschaft (with
Marcus), 1806-08; Allgemeine Zeitschrift von Deutschen
für Deutsche,
1813.]
[Footnote 4: Besides a supplement to Die Weltalter and
his inaugural
lecture at Berlin, he published only two prefaces, one
to Viktor Cousin
über französische und deutsche Philosophie, done into
German by Hubert
Beckers, 1834, and one to Steffens's Nachgelassene
Schriften , 1846.]
[Footnote 5: Paulus, Die endüch offenbar gewordene
positive Philosophie
der Offenbarung , 1843. Frauenstädt had previously
published a sketch from
this later doctrine, 1842.]
[Footnote 6: On Schelling cf. the Lectures by K.
Rosenkranz, 1843; the
articles by Heyder in vol. xiii. of Herzog's
Realencyclopädie für
protestantische Theologie , 1860, and Jodl in the
Allgemeine deutsche
Biographie_; R. Haym, _Die romantische Schule_, 1870;
Aus Schellings
Leben, in Briefen, edited by Plitt, 3 vols., 1869-70.
[Cf. also Watson's
Schelling's Transcendental Idealism (Griggs's
Philosophical Classics,
1882); and several translations from Schelling in the
Journal of
Speculative Philosophy .--TR.]]
The leading motive in Schelling's thinking is an
unusually powerful fancy,
which gives to his philosophy a lively, stimulating, and
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attractive

character, without making it to a like degree logically satisfactory. If

the systems of Fichte and Hegel, which in their content are closely related

to Schelling's, impress us by their logical severity, Schelling chains us

by his lively intuition and his suggestive power of feeling his way into

the inner nature of things. With him analogies outweigh reasons; he is

more concerned about the rich content of concepts than about their sharp

definition; and in the endeavor to show the unity of the universe, both in

the great and in the little, especially to show the unity of nature and

spirit, he dwells longer on the relationship of objects than on their

antitheses, which he is glad to reduce to mere quantitative and temporary

differences. He adds to this an astonishing mobility of thought, in virtue

of which every offered suggestion is at once seized and worked into his own

system, though in this the previous standpoint is unconsciously exchanged

for a somewhat altered one. Schelling's philosophy is, therefore, in a

continual state of flux, nearly every work shows it in a new form, and it

is always ideas from without whose incorporation has caused the transition.

Besides Leibnitz, Kant, and Fichte, who were already familiar to Schelling

as a pupil at Tübingen, it was first Herder, then Spinoza and Bruno, who

exerted a transforming influence on his system, to be followed later by

Neoplatonism and Böhme's mysticism, and, finally, by Aristotle and

the Gnostics, not to speak of his intercourse with his contemporaries

Kielmeyer, Steffens, Baader, Eschenmayer, and others. Omitting his early

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adherence to Fichte, at least three periods must be distinguished
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in Schelling's thinking. The first period (1797-1800) includes the

epoch-making feat of his youth, the \_philosophy of nature , and, as an

equally legitimate second part of his system, the philosophy of spirit or

\_transcendental philosophy\_. The latter is a supplementary recasting of

Fichte's Science of Knowledge, while in the former Schelling follows Kant

and Herder. The second period, from 1801, adds to these two co-ordinate

parts, the philosophy of nature and the philosophy of spirit, and as a

fundamental discipline, a science of the absolute, the \_philosophy of

identity\_, which may be characterized as Spinozism
revived on a Fichtean

basis. Besides the example of Spinoza, Giordano Bruno had most influence on

this form of Schelling's philosophy. With the year 1809, after the signs of

a new phase had become perceptible from 1804 on, his system enters on its

third, the theosophical, period, the period of the positive philosophy ,

in which we shall distinguish a mystical and a scholastic stage. The former

is represented by the doctrine of freedom inspired by Jacob Böhme; the

latter, by the philosophy of mythology and revelation, which goes back to

Aristotle and the Gnostics. In the first period the absolute for Schelling

is creative nature; in the second, the identity of opposites; in the third

it is an antemundane process which advances from the not-yet-present of

the contraries to their overcoming. In neither of these advances is it

Schelling's intention to break with his previous teachings, but in each

case only to add a supplement. That which has hitherto

been the whole is retained as a part. The philosophy of nature takes its place beside the completed Fichtean transcendental philosophy, with equal rights, though with a reversed procedure; then the theory of identity assumes a place above both; finally, a positive (existential) philosophy is added to the previous negative (rational) philosophy.

# %1a. Philosophy of Nature.%

Schelling agrees with Fichte that philosophy is transcendental science,

the doctrine of the conditions of consciousness, and has to answer the

question, What must take place in order that knowledge may arise? They

agree, further, that these conditions of knowledge are necessary acts,

outgoings of an active original ground which is not yet conscious self, but

seeks to become such, and that the material world is the product of these

actions. Nature exists in order that the ego may develop. But while Fichte

correctly understood the purpose of nature, to help intelligence into

being, he failed to recognize the dignity of nature, for he deprived it of

all self-dependence, all life of its own, all generative power, and treated

it merely as a dead tool, as a passive, merely posited non-eqo. Nature

is not a board which the original ego nails up before itself in order,

striking against it, to be driven back upon itself, to be compelled to

reflection, and thereby to become theoretical ego; in order, further,

working over the non-ego, and transforming it, to exercise its practical

activity: but it is a ladder on which spirit rises to

itself. Spirit

develops out of nature; nature itself has a spiritual element in it; it

is undeveloped, slumbering, unconscious, benumbed intelligence. By

transferring to nature the power of self-position or of being subject,

Schelling exalts the drudge of the Science of Knowledge to the throne.

The threefold division, "infinite original activity-nature or

object--individual ego or subject," remains as in Fichte, only that the

first member is not termed pure ego, but nature, yet creative nature,

\_natura naturans\_. Schelling's aim is to show how from the object a subject

arises, from the existent something represented, from the representable a

representer, from nature an ego. He could only hope to solve this problem

if he conceived natural objects--in the highest of which, man, he makes

conscious spirit break forth or nature intuit itself--as themselves the

products of an original subject, of a creative ground striving toward

consciousness. For him also doing is more original than being. It would not

be exact, therefore, to define the difference between Fichte and Schelling

by saying that, with the former, nature proceeds from the ego, and with the

latter the ego, from nature. It is rather true that with them both nature

and spirit are alike the products of a third and higher term, which seeks

to become spirit, and can accomplish this only by positing nature. In the

Science of Knowledge, it is true, this higher ground is conceived as an

ethical, in the Philosophy of Nature as a physical, power, although one

framed for intelligence; in the former, moreover, the natura naturata

appears as the position once for all of a non-spiritual, in the latter as

a progressive articulated construction, with gradually increasing

intelligence. In the unconscious products of nature, nature's aim to

reflect upon itself, to become intelligence, fails, in man it succeeds.

Nature is the embryonic life of spirit. Nature and spirit are essentially

identical: "That which is posited \_out of\_ consciousness
is in its essence

the same as that which is posited \_in\_ consciousness also." Therefore

"the knowable must itself bear the impress of the knower." Nature the

preliminary stage, not the antithesis, of spirit; history, a continuation

of physical becoming; the parallelism between the ideal and the real

development-series--these are ideas from Herder which Schelling introduces

into the transcendental philosophy. The Kantio-Fichtean moralism, with

its sharp contraposition of nature and spirit, is limited in the

\_Naturphilosophie\_ by Herder's physicism.

"Nature \_is a priori\_" (everything individual in it is pre-determined by

the whole, by the Idea of a nature in general); hence the forms of nature

can be deduced from the concept of nature. The philosopher creates nature

anew, he constructs it. Speculative physics considers
nature as \_subject\_,

becoming, productivity (not, like empirical science, as object, being,

product), and for this purpose it needs, instead of individualizing

reflection, an intuition directed to the whole. To this productive nature,

as to the absolute ego of Fichte, are ascribed two opposite activities,

one expansive or repulsive, and one attractive, and on

these is based the

universal law of \_polarity\_. The absolute productivity strives toward an

infinite product, which it never attains, because apart from arrest no

product exists. At definite points a check must be given it in order that

something knowable may arise. Thus every product in nature is the result

of a positive, centrifugal, accelerating, universalizing force, and a

negative, limiting, retarding, individualizing one. The endlessness of the

creative activity manifests itself in various ways: in the striving for

development on the part of every product, in the preservation of the genus

amid the disappearance of individuals, in the endlessness of the series of

products. Nature's creative impulse is inexhaustible, it transcends every

product. Qualities are points of arrest in the one universal force of

nature; all nature is a connected development. Because of the opposition in

the nature-ground between the stimulating and the retarding activity, the

law of duality everywhere rules. To these two forces, however, still a

third factor must be added as their copula, which determines the relation

or measure of their connection. This is the source of the threefold

division of the Philosophy of Nature. The magnet with its union of opposite

polar forces is the type of all configuration in nature.

With Fichte's synthetic method and Herder's naturalistic principles

Schelling combines Kantian ideas, especially Kant's dynamism (matter is

a force-product),[1] and his view of the organic (organisms are

self-productive beings, and are regarded by us as ends in themselves,

because of the interaction between their members and the whole). The three

organic functions sensibility, irritability, and reproduction, on the other

hand, Schelling took from Kielmeyer, whose address \_On the Relations of

the Organic Forces\_, 1793, excited great attention. The concept of life is

dominant in Schelling's theory of nature. The organic is more original than

the inorganic; the latter must be explained from the former; that which is

dead must be considered as a product of departing life. No less erroneous

than the theory of a magic vital force is the mechanical interpretation,

which looks on life merely as a chemical phenomenon. The dead, mechanical

and chemical, forces are merely the negative conditions of life; to them

there must be added as a positive force a vital stimulus external to the

individual, which continually rekindles the conflict between the opposing

activities on which the vital process depends. Life consists, that is, in

the perpetual prevention of the equilibrium which is the object of the

chemical process. This constant disturbance proceeds from "universal

nature," which, as the common principle of organic and inorganic nature, as

that which determines them for each other, which founds a pre-established

harmony between them, deserves the name of the world-soul. Schelling

thus recognizes a threefold nature: organized, inorganic, and universal

organizing (according to Harms, cosmical) nature, of which the two former

arise from the third and are brought by it into connection and harmony. (As

Schelling here takes an independent middle course between the mechanical

explanation of life and the assumption of a specific

vital force, so in

all the burning physical questions of the time he seeks to rise above the

contending parties by means of mediating solutions. Thus, in the question

of "single or double electricity," he ranges himself neither on the side of

Franklin nor on that of his opponents; in regard to the problem of light,

endeavors to overcome the antithesis between Newton's emanation theory and

the undulation theory of Euler; and, in his chapter on combustion, attacks

the defenders of phlogiston as well as those who deny it).

[Footnote 1: Schelling terms his philosophy of nature dynamic atomism,

since it posits pure intensities as the simple (atoms), from which  $% \left( 1\right) =\left( 1\right) \left( 1\right) +\left( 1\right) \left( 1\right) \left( 1\right) +\left( 1\right) \left( 1\right) \left( 1\right) \left( 1\right) +\left( 1\right) \left( 1$ 

qualities are to be explained.]

Schelling's philosophy of nature[1] proposes to itself three chief

problems: the construction of general, indeterminate, homogeneous

matter, with differences in density alone, of determinate, qualitatively

differentiated matter and its phenomena of motion or the dynamical process,

and of the organic process. For each of these departments of nature an

original force in universal nature is assumed--gravity, light, and their

copula, universal life. Gravity--this does not mean that which as the force

of attraction falls within the view of sensation, for it is the union of

attraction and repulsion--is the principle of corporeality, and produces

in the visible world the different conditions of aggregation in solids,

fluids, and gases. Light -- this, too, is not to be confounded with actual

light, of which it is the cause--is the principle of the

soul (from it proceeds all intelligence, it is a spiritual potency, the "first subject" in nature), and produces in the visible world the dynamical processes magnetism, electricity, and chemism. The higher unity of gravity and light is the copula or life, the principle of the organic, of animated corporeality or the processes of growth and reproduction, irritability, and sensibility.

[Footnote 1: This is contained in the following treatises: \_Ideas for a Philosophy of Nature, 1797; On the World-soul, 1798; First Sketch of a System of the Philosophy of Nature, 1799; Universal Deduction of the Dynamical Process or the Categories of Physics\_ (in the \_Zeitschrift für spekulative Physik\_) 1800. In the above exposition, however, the modified philosophy of nature of the second period has also been taken into account.]

General \_matter\_ or the filling of space, arises from the co-operation of

three forces: the centrifugal, which manifests itself as repulsion (first

dimension), the centripetal, manifested as attraction (second dimension),

and the synthesis of the two, manifested as gravity (third dimension).

These forces are raised by light to a higher potency, and then make their

appearance as the causes of the \_dynamical\_ process or of the specific

differences of matter. The linear function of magnetism is the condition

of coherence; the surface force of electricity, the basis of the qualities

perceivable by sense; the tri-dimensional force of the chemical process, in

which the two former are united, produces the chemical qualities. Galvanism

forms the transition to living nature, in which through the operation of

the "copula" these three dynamical categories are raised to organic

categories. To magnetism as the most general, and hence the lowest force,

corresponds reproduction (the formative impulse, as nutrition, growth, and

production, including the artistic impulse); electricity develops into

irritability or excitability; the higher analogue to the chemical process

as the most individual and highest stage is sensibility or the capacity

of feeling. (Such at least is Schelling's doctrine after Steffens had

convinced him of the higher dignity of that which is individual, whereas

at first he had made sensibility parallel with magnetism, and reproduction

with chemism, because the former two appear most seldom, and the latter

most frequently. Electricity and irritability always maintained their

intermediate position.) With the awakening of feeling nature has attained

its goal--intelligence. As inorganic substances are distinguished only by

relative degrees of repulsion and attraction, so the differentiation of

organisms is conditioned by the relation of the three vital functions: in

the lower forms reproduction predominates, then irritability gradually

increases, while in the highest forms both of these are subordinated to

sensibility. All species, however, are connected by a common life, all the

stages are but arrests of the same fundamental force. This accentuation

of the unity of nature, which establishes a certain kinship between

Schelling's philosophy of nature and Darwinism, was a

great idea, which deserves the thanks of posterity in spite of such defects as its often sportive, often heedlessly bold reasoning in details.

The parallelism of the potencies of nature, as we have developed it by leaving out of account the numerous differences between the various expositions of the \_Naturphilosophie\_, may be shown by a table:

I. UNIVERSAL NATURE. II. INORGANIC NATURE III. ORGANIC NATURE. (ORGANIZING) 3. Copula 3. Organization or Life. /Chemical \ G /Sensi-Man. Process (3d a bility. 2. Dynamical | Dimen- | 1 2. Light \ (Soul). Process . < sion) |Irritabi- Male b. At- \ (Determi- | Electri- | a | |lity. (=Light) traction. nate | city (2d Di->n Animal. >1. Gra- matter.) mension.) vity 1. Indeter- | Magnetism | s Female Reproa. Re-(Body) minate | (1st Di- | m |duction (-Gravity) matter . \ mension.) / pulsion / Plant.

# %1b. Transcendental Philosophy.%

The philosophy of nature explained the products of

nature teleologically,

deduced them from the concept or the mission of nature, by ignoring the

mechanical origin of physical phenomena and inquiring into the significance

of each stage in nature in view of this ideal meaning of the whole. It asks

what is the outcome of the chemical process for the whole of nature, what

is given by electricity, by magnetism, etc.--what part of the general aim

of nature is attained, is realized through this or that group of phenomena.

The philosophy of spirit given in the \_System of Transcendental Idealism ,

1800, finds itself confronted by corresponding questions concerning the

phenomena of intelligence, of morals, and of art. Here again Schelling does

not trace out the mechanics of the soul-life, but is interested only in the

meaning, in the teleological significance of the psychical functions.

His aim is a constructive psychology in the Fichtean sense, a history of

consciousness, and the execution of his design as well closely follows the

example of the \_Wissenschaftslehre\_.

Since truth is the agreement of thought and its object, every cognition

necessarily implies the coming together of a subjective and an objective

factor. The problem of this coming together may be treated in two ways.

With the philosophy of nature we may start from the object and observe how

intelligence is added to nature. The transcendental philosophy takes the

opposite course, it takes its position with the subject, and asks, How

is there added to intelligence an object corresponding to it? The

transcendental philosopher has need of intellectual intuition in order to

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recognize the original object-positing actions of the
ego, which remain
concealed from common consciousness, sunk in the outcome
of these acts. The
theoretical part of the system explains the
representation of objective
reality (the feeling connected with certain
representations that we are
compelled to have them), from pure self-consciousness,
whose opposing
moments, a real and an ideal force, limit each other by
degrees, -- and
follows the development of spirit in three periods
("epochs"). The first
of these extends from sensation, in which the ego finds
itself limited, to
productive intuition, in which a thing in itself is
posited over against
the ego and the phenomenon between the two; the second,
from this point to
reflection (feeling of self, outer and inner intuition
together with space
and time, the categories of relation as the original
categories); the
third, finally, through judgment, wherein intuition and
concept are
separated as well as united, up to the absolute act of
will. Willing is
the continuation and completion of intuition;[1]
intuition was unconscious
production, willing is conscious production. It is only
through action that
the world becomes objective for us, only through
interaction with other
active intelligences that the ego attains to the
consciousness of a real
external world, and to the consciousness of its freedom.
The practical
part follows the will from impulse (the feeling of
contradiction between
the ideal and the object) through the division into
moral law and resistant
natural impulse up to arbitrary will. Observations on
legal order, on the
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state, and on history are added as "supplements." The

law of right, by

which unlawful action is directed against itself, is not a moral, but a

natural order, which operates with blind necessity. The state, like law, is

a product of the genus, and not of individuals. The ideal of a cosmopolitan

legal condition is the goal of \_history\_, in which
caprice and conformity

to law are one, in so far as the conscious free action of individuals

subserves an unconscious end prescribed by the world-spirit. History is the

never completed revelation of the absolute (of the unity of the conscious

and the unconscious) through human freedom. We are coauthors in the

historical world-drama, and invent our own parts. Not until the third (the

religious) period, in which he reveals himself as "providence," will God

\_be\_; in the past (the tragical) period, in which the divine power was felt

as "fate," and in the present (the mechanical) period, in which he appears

as the "plan of nature," God is not, but is only \_becoming\_.

[Footnote 1: With this transformation of the antithesis between knowledge

and volition into a mere difference in degree, Schelling sinks back to the

standpoint of Leibnitz. In all the idealistic thinkers who start from Kant

we find the endeavor to overcome the Critical dualism of understanding and

will, as also that between intellect and sensibility. Schiller brings the

contrary impulses of the ego into ultimate harmonious union in artistic

activity. Fichte traces them back to a common ground; Schelling combines

both these methods by extolling art as a restoration of the original

identity. Hegel reduces volition to thought,

Schopenhauer makes intellect proceed from will.

An interesting supplement to the Fichtean philosophy is furnished by the

third, the \_aesthetic\_, part of the transcendental idealism, which makes

use of Kant's theory of the beautiful in a way similar to that in which the

philosophy of nature had availed itself of his theory of the organic.

Art is the higher third in which the opposition between theoretical and

practical action, the antithesis of subject and object, is removed; in

which cognition and action, conscious and unconscious activity, freedom and

necessity, the impulse of genius and reflective deliberation are united.

The beautiful, as the manifestation of the infinite in the finite, shows

the problem of philosophy, the identity of the real and the ideal, solved

in sensuous appearance. Art is the true organon and warrant of philosophy;

she opens up to philosophy the holy of holies, is for philosophy the

supreme thing, the revelation of all mysteries. Poesy and philosophy (the

aesthetic intuition of the artist and the intellectual intuition of

the thinker) are most intimately related; they were united in the old

mythology--why should not this repeat itself in the future?

### %2. System of Identity.%

The assertion which had already been made in the first period that "nature

and spirit are fundamentally the same," is intensified in the second into

the proposition, "The ground of nature and spirit, the absolute, is the

identity of the real and the ideal," and in this form is elevated into

a principle. As the absolute is no longer employed as a mere ground of

explanation, but is itself made the object of philosophy, the doctrine of

identity is added to the two co-ordinate disciplines, the philosophy of

nature and the philosophy of spirit, as a higher third, which serves as a

basis for them, and in Schelling's exposition of which several phases must

be distinguished.[1]

[Footnote 1: The philosophy of identity is given in the following

treatises: \_Exposition of my System of Philosophy, 1801; Further

Expositions of the System of Philosophy, 1802; Bruno, or on the Divine and

Natural Principle of Things, 1803; Lectures on the Method of Academical

Study, 1803; Aphorisms by way of Introduction to the Philosophy of Nature,

Aphorisms on the Philosophy of Nature\_ (both in the Jahrbücher für

Medizin), 1806\_. Besides these the following also bear on this doctrine:

the additions to the second edition of the \_Ideas\_, 1803, and the

Exposition , against Fichte, 1806.]

Following Spinoza, whom he at first imitated even in the geometrical method

of proof, Schelling teaches that there are two kinds of knowledge, the

philosophical knowledge of the reason and the confused knowledge of

the imagination, and, as objects of these, two forms of existence, the

infinite, undivided existence of the absolute, and the finite existence of

individual things, split up into multiplicity and becoming. The manifold

and self-developing things of the phenomenal world owe their existence

to isolating thought alone; they possess as such no true reality, and

speculation proves them void. While things appear particular to inadequate

representation, the philosopher views them \_sub specie aeterni\_, in their

\_per se\_, in their totality, in the identity, as Ideas. To construe things

is to present them as they are in God. But in God all things are one;

in the absolute all is absolute, eternal, infinitude itself. (Accord-to

Hegel's parody, the absolute is the night, in which all cows are black.)

The world-ground appears as nature and spirit; yet in itself it is neither

the one nor the other, but the unity of both which is raised above all

contrariety, the indifference of objective and subjective. Although amid

the finitude of the things of the world the selfidentity of the absolute

breaks up into a plurality of self-developing individual existences, yet

even in the phenomenal world of individuals the unity of the ground is not

entirely lost: each particular existence is a definite expression of the

absolute, and to it as such the character of identity belongs, though in

a diminished degree and mingled with difference (Bruno's "monads"). The

world-ground is absolute, the individual thing is relative, identity and

totality; nothing exists which is merely objective or merely subjective;

everything is both, only that one or other of these two factors always

predominates. This Schelling terms quantitative difference: the phenomena

of nature, like the phenomena of spirit, are a unity of the real and the

ideal, only that in the former there is a preponderance of the real, in the latter a preponderance of the ideal.

At first Schelling, in Neoplatonic fashion, maintained the existence of another intermediate region between the spheres of the

infinite and the

finite: absolute knowing or the self-knowledge of the identity. In this,

as the "form" of the absolute, the objective and the subjective are not

absolutely one, as they are in the being or "essence" of the absolute, but

ideally (potentially) opposed, though one \_realiter\_.
Later he does away

with this distinction also, as existing for reflection alone, not for

rational intuition, and outbids his earlier determinations concerning the

simplicity of the absolute with the principle, that it is not only the

unity of opposites, but also the unity of the unity and the opposition or

the identity of the identity, in which fanciful description the dialogue

\_Bruno\_ pours itself forth. A further alteration is brought in by

characterizing the absolute as the identity of the finite and the infinite,

and by equating the finite with the real or being, the infinite with the

ideal or knowing. With this there is joined a philosophical interpretation

of the Trinity akin to Lessing's. In the absolute or eternal the finite

and the infinite are alike absolute. God the Father is the eternal, or the

unity of the finite and the infinite; the Son is the finite in God (before

the falling away); the Spirit is the infinite or the return of the finite into the eternal.

In the construction of the real series Schelling

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proceeds still more
schematically and analogically than in the
Naturphilosophie of the first
period, the contents of which are here essentially
reproduced. With this is
closely connected his endeavor, in correspondence with
the principles of
the theory of identity, to show in every phenomenon the
operation of
all three moments of the absolute. In each natural
product all three
"potencies" or stages, gravity A(^1), light A(^2), and
organization A(^3),
are present, only in subordination to one of their
number. Since the third
potency is never lacking, all is organic; that which
appears to us as
inorganic matter is only the residuum left over from
organization,
that which could become neither plant nor animal. New
here is the
cohesion-series of Steffens (the phenomenon of
magnetism), in which
nitrogen forms the south pole, carbon the north pole,
and iron the point of
indifference, while oxygen, hydrogen, and water
represent the east pole,
west pole, and indifference point in electrical
polarity. In the organic
world plants represent the carbon pole, animals the
nitrogen pole; the
former is the north pole, the latter the south.
Moreover, the points of
indifference reappear: the plant corresponds to water,
the animal to iron.
Schelling was far outdone in fantastic analogies of this
kind by his
pupils, especially by Oken, who in his Sketch of the
Philosophy of
Nature_, 1805, compares the sense of hearing, for
example, to the parabola,
to a metal, to a bone, to the bird, to the mouse, and to
the horse. As
nature was the imaging of the infinite (unity or
essence) into the finite
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(plurality or form), so spirit is the taking up of the finite into the

infinite. In the spiritual realm also all three divine original potencies

are every, where active, though in such a way that one is dominant. In

intuition (sensation, consciousness, intuition, each in turn thrice

divided) the infinite and the eternal are subordinated to the finite; in

thought or understanding (concept, judgment, inference, each in three

kinds) the finite and the eternal are subordinated to the infinite; in

reason (which comprehends all under the form of the absolute) the finite

and the infinite are subordinated to the eternal. Intuition is finite

cognition, thought infinite cognition, reason eternal cognition. The forms

of the understanding do not suffice for the knowledge of reason; common

logic with its law of contradiction has no binding authority for

speculation, which starts with the equalization of opposites. In the

\_Aphorisms by way of Introduction\_ science, religion, and art figure as

stages of the ideal all, in correspondence with the potencies of the real

all--matter, motion, and organization. Nature culminates in man, history

in the state. Reason, philosophy, is the reestablishment of identity, the return of the absolute to itself.

Unconditioned knowledge, as Schelling maintains in his encyclopedia,

\_i.e.\_, his \_Lectures on the Method of Academical Study\_, is the

presupposition of all particular knowledge. The function of universities is

to maintain intact the connection between particular knowledge and absolute

knowledge. The three higher faculties correspond to the

three potencies in

the absolute: Natural Science and Medicine to the real or finite; History

and Law to the ideal or infinite; Theology to the eternal or the copula.

There is further a faculty of arts, the so-called Philosophical Faculty,

which imparts whatever in philosophy is teachable. The two lectures on

theology (viii. and ix.) are especially important. There are two forms of

religion, one of which discovers God in nature, while the other finds him

in history; the former culminates in the Greek religion, the latter in the

Christian, and with the founding of this the third period of history (which

Schelling had previously postponed into the future), the period of

providence begins. In Christianity mythology is based on religion, not

religion on mythology, as was the case in heathenism. The speculative

kernel of Christianity is the incarnation of God, already taught by the

Indian sages; this, however, is not to be understood as a single event in

time, but as eternal. It has been a hindrance to the development of

Christianity that the Bible, whose value is far below that of the sacred

books of India, has been more highly prized than that which the patristic

thinking succeeded in making out of its meager contents.

If, finally, we compare Schelling's system of identity with its model, the

system of Spinoza, two essential differences become apparent. Although both

thinkers start from a principiant equal valuation of the two phenomenal

manifestations of the absolute, nature and spirit, Spinoza tends to posit

thought in dependence on extension (the soul represents what the body is),

while in Schelling, conversely, the Fichtean preference of spirit is still

potent (the state and art stand nearer to the absolute identity

than the organism, although, principiantly considered, the greatest

possible approximation to the equilibrium of the real and the ideal is as

much attained in the one as in the other). The second difference lies in

the fact that the idea of development is entirely lacking in Spinoza, while

in Schelling it is everywhere dominant. It reminds one of Lessing and

Herder, who also attempted to combine Spinozistic and Leibnitzian elements.

#### %3a. Doctrine of Freedom.%

The system of identity had, with Spinoza, distinguished two worlds, the

real world of absolute identity and the imagined world of differentiated

and changeable individual things; it had traced back the latter to the

former as its ground, but had not deduced it from the former. Whence, then,

the imagination which, instead of the unchangeable unity, shows us the

changing manifold? Whence the imperfections of the finite, whence evil?

The pantheism of Spinoza is inseparably connected with determinism, which

denies evil without explaining it. Evil and finitude demand explanation,

not denial, and this without the abandonment of pantheism. But explanation

by what? By the absolute, for besides the absolute there is naught. How,

then, must the pantheistic doctrine of the absolute be transformed in order

that the fact of evil and the separate existence of the finite may become

comprehensible? To this task are devoted the Inquiries into the Nature of Human Freedom (Philosophical Works, vol. i., 1809, with which should be compared the Memorial of Jacobi , 1812, and the Answer to Eschenmayer , 1813). As early as in the Bruno , the problem occasionally emerges why matters do not rest with the original infinite unity of the absolute, why the finite breaks away from the identical primal ground. The possibility of the separation, it is answered, lies in the fact that the finite is like the infinite realiter, and yet, ideally, is different from it; the actuality of the coming forth, however, lies in the non-deducible self-will of the finite. Then after Eschenmayer[1] (Philosophy in its Transition to Not-philosophy , 1803) had characterized the procession of the Ideas out of the Godhead as an impenetrable mystery for thought, before which philosophy must yield to faith, Schelling, in the essay Religion and Philosophy, 1804, goes more deeply into the problem. The origin of the sense-world is conceivable only as a breaking away, a spring, a falling away , which consists in the soul's grasping itself in its selfhood, in its

subordination of the infinite in itself to the finite,

ceasing to be in God. The procession of the world from

counterpart of this attainment of independence on the

creation is history as the return of the world to its

related to each other as the fall to redemption. Both

free act, a fact which can only be described, not

and in its thus

the infinite is a

part of things or

source. They are

deduced as necessary. The

the dismission of the

world and its reception back, together with the intervening development,

are, however, events needed by God himself in order to become actual God:

He develops through the world. (A similar thought was not unknown in the

Middle Ages: if God is to give a complete revelation of himself he must

make known his grace; and this presupposes sin. As the occasion of divine

grace, the fall is a happy, saving fault; without it God could not have

revealed himself as gracious, as forgiving, hence not completely.)

Schelling's study of Jacob Böhme, to which he was led by Baader,

essentially contributed to the concentration of his thought on this point.

\_The Exposition of the True Relation\_, etc., already distinctly betrays the

influence of this mystic. In correspondence with Böhme's doctrine that God

is living God only through his inclusion of negation in himself, it is here

maintained: A being can manifest itself only when it is not merely one, but

has another, an opposition (the many), in itself, whereby it is revealed to

itself as unity. With the addition of certain Kantian ideas, in particular

the idea of transcendental freedom and the intelligible character,

Schelling's theosophy now assumes the following form:

The only way to guard against the determinism and the lifeless God of

Spinoza is to assume something in God which is not God himself, to

distinguish between God as existent and that which is merely the ground of

his existence or "nature in God." In God also the perfect proceeds from the

imperfect, he too develops and realizes himself. The actual, perfect God,

who is intelligence, wisdom, goodness, is preceded by something which is

merely the possibility of all this, an obscure, unconscious impulse toward

self-representation. For in the last analysis there is no being but

willing; to willing alone belong the predicates of the primal being,

groundlessness, eternity, independence of time, self-affirmation. This

"ground of existence" is an obscure "longing" to give birth to self, an

unconscious impulse to become conscious; the goal of this longing is the

"understanding," the Logos, the Word, wherein God becomes revealed to self.

By the self-subordination of this longing to the understanding as its

matter and instrument, God becomes actual God, becomes spirit and love. The

operation of the light understanding on the dark naturewill consists in a

separation of forces, whence the visible world proceeds. Whatever in the

latter is perfect, rational, harmonious, and purposive is the work of the

understanding; the irrational remainder, on the other hand, conflict and

lawlessness, abortion, sickness and death, originates in the dark ground.

Each thing has two principles in it: its self-will it receives from nature

in God, yet, at the same time, as coming from the divine understanding,

it is the instrument of the universal will. In God the light and dark

principles stand in indissoluble unity, in man they are separable. The

freedom of man's will makes him independent of both principles; going over

from truth to falsehood, he may strive to make his selfhood supreme and

to reduce the spiritual in him to the level of a means, or--with divine

assistance--continuing in the center, he may endeavor to

subordinate

the particular will to the will of love. Good consists in overcoming

resistance, for in every case a thing can be revealed only through its

opposite. If man yields to temptation it is his own guilty choice. Evil is

not merely defect, privation, but something positive, selfhood breaking

away, the reversal of the rightful order between the particular and the

universal will. The possibility of a separation of the two wills lies in

the divine ground (it is "permitted" in order that by overmastering the

self-will the will of love may approve itself), the actuality of evil is

the free act of the creature. Freedom is to be conceived, in the Kantian

sense, as equally far removed from chance or caprice and from compulsion:

Man chooses his own non-temporal, intelligible nature; he predestinates

himself in the first creation, \_i.e.\_, from eternity, and is responsible

for his actions in the sense-world, which are the necessary results of that free primal act.

[Footnote 1: K. Ad. Eschenmayer was originally a physician, then, 1811-36, professor of philosophy in Tübingen, and died in 1852 at Kirchheim unter Teck.]

As in nature and in the individual, so also in the history of mankind, the

two original grounds of things do battle with one another. The golden age

of innocence, of happy indecision and unconsciousness concerning sin, when

neither good nor evil yet was, was followed by a period of the omnipotence

of nature, in which the dark ground of existence ruled alone, although

it did not make itself felt as actual evil until, in Christianity, the spiritual light was born in personal form. The subsequent conflict of good against evil, in which God reveals himself as spirit, leads toward a state wherein evil will be reduced to the position of a potency and everything subordinated to spirit, and thus the complete identity of the ground of

existence and the existing God be brought about.

Besides this after-reconciliation of the two divine moments, Schelling

recognizes another, original unity of the two. The not yet unfolded unity

of the beginning (God as Alpha) he terms \_indifference\_ or groundlessness;

the more valuable unity of the end, attained by unfolding (God as Omega)

is called \_identity\_ or spirit. In the former the contraries are not yet

present; in the latter they are present no longer. The groundless divides

into two equally eternal beginnings, nature and light, or longing and

understanding, in order that the two may become one in love, and thereby

the absolute develop into the personal God. In this way Schelling endeavors

to overcome the antithesis between naturalism and theism, between dualism

and pantheism, and to remove the difficulties which arise for pantheism

from the fact of evil, as well as from the concepts of personality and of freedom.

In the two moments of the absolute (nature in God--personal spirit) we

recognize at once the antithesis of the real and ideal which was given

in the philosophy of identity. The chief difference between the mystical

period and the preceding one consists in the fact that

the absolute itself

is now made to develop (from indifference to identity, from the neither-nor

to the as-well-as of the antithesis), and that there is conceded to the

sense-world a reality which is more than apparent, more than merely present

for imagination. That which facilitated this rapid, almost unceasing change

of position for Schelling, and which at the same time concealed the fact

from him, was, above all, the ambiguous and variable meaning of his leading

concepts. The "objective," for example, now signifies unconscious being,

becoming, and production, now represented reality, now the real, in so far

as it is not represented, but only \_is\_. "God" sometimes means the whole

absolute, sometimes only the infinite, spiritual moment in the absolute.

Scarcely a single term is sharply defined, much less consistently used in a single meaning.

# %3b. Philosophy of Mythology and Revelation.%

Once again Schelling is ready with a new statement of the problem.

Philosophy is the science of the existent. In this, however, a distinction

is to be made between the \_what (quid sit)\_ and the \_that (quod sit)\_, or

between essence and existence. The apprehension of the essence, of the

concept, is the work of reason, but this does not go as far as actual

being. Rational philosophy cognizes only the universal, the possible,

the necessary truths (whose contradictory is unthinkable), but not the

particular and factual. This philosophy can only assert: If anything exists

it must conform to these laws; existence is not given

with the what .

Hegel has ignored this distinction between the logical and the actual, has

confused the rational and the real. Even the system of identity was merely

rational, \_i.e., negative\_, philosophy, to which there must be added, as a

second part, a positive or existential philosophy, which does not, like the

former, rise to the highest principle, to God, but starts from this supreme Idea and shows its actuality.

The content of this phase of Schelling's thought[1] was so unfruitful, and

its influence so small, that brief hints concerning it must here suffice.

First of all, the doctrine of the divine potencies and of creation is

repeated in altered form, and then there is given a philosophy of the

history of religion as a reflection of the theogonic process in human consciousness.

[Footnote 1: On Schelling's negative and positive philosophy, published in

the four volumes of the second division of the \_Works\_, cf. Karl Groos,

\_Die reine Vernunftwissenschaft, systematische Darstellung von Schellings

negativer Philosophie\_, 1889; Konstantin Frantz, Schellings positive

Philosophie, in three parts, 1879-80; Ed. von Hartmann, Gesammelte

Studien und Aufsätze\_, 1876, p. 650 \_seq\_.; Ad. Planck, \_Schellings

nachgelassene Werke\_, 1858; also the essay by Heyder, referred to above].

The potencies are now called the infinite ability to be (inactive will,

subject), pure being (being without potentiality, object), and spirit,

which is free from the one-sidednesses of mere

potentiality and of

mere being, and master of itself (subject-object); to these is added,

further--not as a fourth, but as that which has the three predicates and

is wholly in each—the absolute proper, as the cause and support of these

attributes. The original unity of the three forms is dissolved, as the

first raises itself out of the condition of a mere potency and withdraws

itself from pure being in order to exist for itself; the tension extends

itself to the two others--the second now comes out from its selflessness,

subdues the first, and so leads the third back to unity. In creation

the three potencies stand related as the unlimited Canbe, the limiting

Must-be, and the Ought-to-be, or operate as material, formal, and final

causes, all held in undivided combination by the soul. It was not until the

end of creation that they became personalities. Man, in whom the potencies  $\ \ \,$ 

come to rest, can divide their unity again; his fall calls forth a new

tension, and thereby the world becomes a world outside of God. History, the

process o progressive reconciliation between the Godestranged world and

God, passes through two periods--heathenism, in which the second person

works as a natural potency, and Christianity, in which it works with

freedom. In the discussion of these positive philosophy becomes a

\_philosophy of mythology and revelation\_. The irresistible force of

mythological ideas is explained by the fact that the gods are not creations

of the fancy, but real powers, namely, these potencies, which form the

substance of human conciousness.

The history of religion has for its starting-point the relative monotheism

of humanity in its original unity, and for its goal the absolute monotheism

of Christianity. With the separation into nations polytheism arises. This

is partly simultaneous polytheism (a plurality of gods under a chief god),

partly successive polytheism (an actual plurality of divinities, changing

dynasties of several chief gods), and develops from star worship or Sabeism

up to the religion of the Greeks. The Greek mysteries form the transition

from mythology to revelation. While in the mythological process one or

other of the divine potencies (Ground, Son, Spirit) was always predominant,

in Christianity they return into unity. The true monotheism of revelation

shows God as an articulated unity, in which the opposites are contained,

as being overcome. The person of Christ constitutes the content of

Christianity, who, in his incarnation and sacrificial death, yields up the

independence out of God which had come to him through the fall of man.

The three periods in the development of the Church (real, substantial

unity--ideality or freedom--the reconciliation of the two) were

foreshadowed in the chief apostles: Peter, with his leaning toward the

past, represents the Papal Church; Paul the thinker the Protestant Church;

and the gentle John the Church of the future.

#### CHAPTER XII.

SCHELLING'S CO-WORKERS.

In his period of vigorous creation Schelling was the

center of an animated

philosophical activity. Each phase of his philosophy found a circle of

enthusiastic fellow-laborers, whom we must hesitate to term disciples

because of their independence and of their reaction on Schelling himself.

Only G.M. Klein (1776-1820, professor in Würzburg), Stutzmann (died 1816

in Erlangen; \_Philosophy of the Universe\_, 1806; Philosophy of History ,

1808), and the historians of philosophy Ast and Rixner can be called

disciples of Schelling. Prominent among his co-workers in the philosophy

of nature were Steffens, Oken, Schubert, and Carus; besides these the

physiologist Burdach, the pathologist Kieser, the plant physiologist Nees

von Esenbeck, and the medical thinker Schelver ( Philosophy of Medicine ,

1809) deserve mention. Besides Hegel, J.J. Wagner and Friedrich Krause

distinguished themselves as independent founders of systems of identity;

Troxler, Suabedissen, and Berger are also to be assigned to this group.

Baader and Schleiermacher were competitors of Schelling in the philosophy

of religion, and Solger in aesthetics. Finally Fr. J. Stahl (died 1861;

\_Philosophy of Right\_, 1830 \_seq\_..), was also influenced by Schelling.

There is a wide divergence in Schelling's school, as J.E. Erdmann

accurately remarks, between the naturalistic pantheist Oken and the

mystical theosophist Baader, in whom elements which had been united in

Schelling appear divided.

# %1. The Philosophers of Nature.%

Henrik Steffens[1] (a Norwegian, 1773-1845; professor in

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Halle, Breslau,
and Berlin) makes individual development the goal of
nature--which is first
completely attained in man and in his peculiarity or
talent--and holds that
the catastrophes of the spirit are reflected in the
history of the earth.
Lorenz Oken[2] (1779-1851; professor in Jena 1807-27,
then in Munich and
Zurich) identifies God and the universe, which comes to
self-consciousness
in man, the most perfect animal; teaches the development
of organisms from
an original slime (a mass of organic elements,
infusoria, or cells); and
looks on the animal kingdom as man anatomized, in that
the animal world
contains in isolated development that which man
possesses collected in
minute organs -- the worm is the feeling animal, the
insect the light animal,
the snail the touch animal, the bird the hearing animal,
the fish the
smelling animal, the amphibian the taste animal, the
mammal the animal of
all senses.
[Footnote 1: Steffens, Contributions to the Inner
Natural History of the
Earth , 1801; Caricatures of the Holiest , 1819-21;
Anthropology_, 1822.]
[Footnote 2: Oken: On the Significance of the Bones of
the Skull , 1807;
Text-book of the Philosophy of Nature, 1809-11, 2d ed.
1831, 3d ed. 1843;
the journal _Isis_, from 1817. On Oken cf. C. Güttler,
1885.1
While in Steffens geological interests predominate, and
in Oken biological
interests, Schubert, Carus, and Ennemoser are the
psychologists of the
school. Gotthilf Heinrich Schubert[1] (1780-1860;
professor in Erlangen and
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Munich) brings the human soul into intimate relation with the world-soul,

whose phantasy gives form to all that is corporeal, and delights to dwell

on the abnormal and mysterious phenomena of the inner life, the border-land

between the physical and the psychical, on the unconscious and the

half-conscious, on presentiments and clairvoyance, as from another

direction also Schelling's philosophy was brought into perilous connection

with somnambulism. A second predominantly contemplative thinker was Karl

Gustav Carus[2] (1789-1869; at his death in Dresden physician to the king;

\_Lectures on Psychology\_, 1831; \_Psyche\_, 1846; \_Physis\_, 1851), greatly

distinguished for his services to comparative anatomy. Carus endows the

cell with unconscious psychical life, -- a memory for the past shows itself

in the inheritance of dispositions and talents, just as the formation of

milk in the breasts of the pregnant and the formation of lungs in the

embryo betray a prevision of the future, -- and points out that with the

higher development of organic and spiritual life the antitheses constantly

become more articulate: individual differences are greater among men than

among women, among adults than among children, among Europeans than among negroes.

[Footnote 1: G.H. Schubert: \_Views of the Dark Side of Natural Science\_,

1808; \_The Primeval World and the Fixed Stars\_, 1822; \_History of the

Soul\_, 1830 (in briefer form, \_Text-book of the Science of Man and of the Soul\_, 1838).]

[Footnote 2: Not to be confused with Friedrich August

Carus (1770-1807; professor in Leipsic), whose \_History of Psychology\_, 1808, forms the third part of his posthumous works.]

# %2. The Philosophers of Identity.%

It has been said of the Dane Johann Erich von Berger (1772-1833; from

1814 professor in Kiel; \_Universal Outlines of Science\_, 1817-27) that

he adopted a middle course between Fichte and Schelling. The same may be

asserted of Karl Ferdinand Solger (1780-1819; at his death professor in

Berlin; \_Erwin, Four Dialogues on Beauty and Art\_, 1815; Lectures on

Aesthetics\_, edited by Heyse, 1829), who points out the womb of the

beautiful in the fancy, and introduces into aesthetics the concept of

irony, that spirit of sadness at the vanity of the finite, though this is

needed by the Idea in order to its manifestation.

In Johann Jacob Wagner[1] (1775-1841; professor in Würzburg) and in J.P.V.

Troxler[2] (1780-1866) we find, as in Steffens, a fourfold division instead

of Schelling's triads. Both Wagner and Troxler find an exact correspondence

between the laws of the universe and those of the human mind. Wagner

(in conformity to the categories essence and form, opposition and

reconciliation) makes all becoming and cognition advance from unity to

quadruplicity, and finds the four stages of knowledge in representation,

perception, judgment, and Idea. Troxler shares with Fries the

anthropological standpoint, (philosophy is anthropology, knowledge of the

world is self-knowledge), and distinguishes, besides the

emotional nature or the unity of human nature, four constituents thereof, spirit, higher soul, lower soul (body, Leib ), and body (Körper) , and four corresponding kinds of knowledge, in reverse order, sensuous perception, experience, reason, and spiritual intuition, of which the middle two are mediate or reflective in character, while the first and last are intuitive. For D. Th. A. Suabedissen also (1773-1835; professor in Marburg: Examination of Man , 1815-18) philosophy is the science of man, and self-knowledge its starting point. [Footnote 1: J.J. Wagner: Ideal Philosophy , 1804; Mathematical Philosophy\_, 1811; \_Organon of Human Knowledge\_, 1830, in three parts, System of the World, of Knowledge, and of Language. On Wagner cf. L. Rabus, 1862.1 [Footnote 2: Troxler: Glances into the Nature of Man, 1812; Metaphysics , 1828; Logic , 1830. The relatively limited reputation enjoyed in his own time and to-day by Friedrich Krause[1] (born in Eisenberg 1781; habilitated in Jena 1802; lived privately in Dresden; became a Privatdocent in Göttingen from 1824; and died at Munich 1832; \_Prototype of Humanity\_, 1812, and numerous other works) has been due, on the one hand, to the appearance of his more gifted contemporary Hegel, and, on the other, to his peculiar terminology. He not only Germanized all foreign words in a spirit of exaggerated purism, but also coined new verbal roots, (Mäl, Ant, Or, Om) and from these formed

the most extraordinary combinations

( Vereinselbganzweseninnesein,

Oromlebselbstschauen\_). His most important pupil, Ahrens (professor in

Leipsic, died 1874; \_Course of Philosophy\_, 1836-38; Natural Right ,

1852), helped Krause's doctrine to gain recognition in France and Belgium

by his fine translations into French; while it was introduced into Spain by

J.S. del Rio of Madrid (died 1869).--Since the finite is a negative, the

infinite a positive concept, and hence the knowledge of the infinite

primal, the principle of philosophy is the absolute, and philosophy itself

knowledge of God or the theory of essence. The Subjective Analytic Course

leads from the self-viewing of the ego up to the vision of God; the

Synthetic Course starts from the fundamental Idea, God, and deduces from

this the partial Ideas, or presents the world as the revelation of God. For

his attempted reconciliation of theism and pantheism Krause invented the

name panentheism, meaning thereby that God neither is the world nor stands

outside the world, but has the world in himself and extends beyond it. He

is absolute identity, nature and reason are relative identity, viz., the

identity of the real and ideal, the former with the character of reality,

the latter with the character of ideality. Or, the absolute considered from

the side of its wholeness (infinity) is nature, considered from the side of

its selfhood (unconditionality) is reason; God is the common root of both.

Above nature and reason is humanity, which combines in itself the highest

products of both, the most perfect animal body and self-consciousness. The

humanity of earth, the humanity known to us, is but a

very small portion of

the humanity of the universe, which in the multitude of its members, which

cannot be increased, constitutes the divine state.

Krause's most important

work is his philosophy of right and of history, with its marks of a highly

keyed idealism. He treats human right as an effluence of divine right;

besides the state or legal union, he recognizes many other

associations -- the science and the art union, the religious society, the

league of virtue or ethical union. His philosophy of history

(\_General Theory of Life\_, edited by Von Leonhardi, 1843) follows the

Fichteo-Hegelian rhythm, unity, division, and reunion, and correlates the

several ages with these. The first stage is germinal life; the second,

youth; the third, maturity. The culmination is followed by a

reverse movement from counter-maturity, through counter-youth, to

counter-childhood, whereupon the development recommences--without

cessation. It is to be regretted that this noble-minded man joined to his

warm-hearted disposition, broad outlook, and rigorous method a heated

fancy, which, crippling the operation of these advantageous qualities,

led his thought quite too far away from reality. Ahrens, Von Leonhardi,

Lindemann, and Roeder may be mentioned as followers of Krause.

[Footnote 1: On Krause cf. P. Hohlfeld, \_Die Krausesche Philosophic\_, 1879;

B. Martin, 1881; R. Eucken, \_Zur Erinnerung an Krause, Festrede , 1881.

From his posthumous works Hohlfeld and Wünsche have published the Lectures

on Aesthetics\_, the \_System of Aesthetics\_ (both 1882),

#### %3. The Philosophers of Religion.%

Franz (von) Baader, the son of a physician, was born in Munich in 1765,

resided there as superintendent of mines, and, from 1826, as professor

of speculative dogmatics, and died there also in 1841. His works, which

consisted only of a series of brief treatises, were collected (16 vols.,

1851-60) by his most important adherent, Franz Hoffman[1] (at his death in

1881 professor in Würzburg). Baader may be characterized as a mediaeval

thinker who has worked through the critical philosophy, and who, a

believing, yet liberal Catholic, endeavors to solve with the instruments

of modern speculation the old Scholastic problem of the reconciliation of

faith and knowledge. His themes are, on the one hand, the development

of God, and, on the other, the fall and redemption, which mean for him,

however, not merely inner phenomena, but world-events. He is in sympathy

with the Neoplatonists, with Augustine, with Thomas Aquinas, with Eckhart,

with Paracelsus, above all, with Jacob Böhme, and Böhme's follower Louis

Claude St. Martin (1743-1804), but does not overlook the value of the

modern German philosophy. With Kant he begins the inquiry with the problem

of knowledge; with Fichte he finds in self-consciousness the essence,

and not merely a property, of spirit; with Hegel he looks on God or

the absolute spirit not only as the object, but also as the subject

of knowledge. He rejects, however, the autonomy of the

will and the

spontaneity of thought; and though he criticises the Cartesian separation

between the thought of the creator and that of the creature, he as little

approves the pantheistic identification of the two--human cognition

participates in the divine, without constituting a part of it.

[Footnote 1: Besides Hoffman, Lutterbeck and Hamberger have described and

expounded Baader's system. See also Baumann's paper in the Philosophische

Monatshefte\_, vol. xiv., 1878, p. 321 \_seq\_.]

In accordance with its three principal objects, "God, Nature, and Man,"

philosophy divides into fundamental science (logic or the theory of

knowledge and theology), the philosophy of nature (cosmology or the

theory of creation and physics), and the philosophy of spirit (ethics and

sociology). In all its parts it must receive religious treatment. Without

God we cannot know God. In our cognition of God he is at once knower

and known; our being and all being is a being known by him; our

self-consciousness is a consciousness of being known by God: \_cogitor, ergo

cogito et sum\_; my being and thinking are based on my being thought by

God. Conscience is a joint knowing with God's knowing (\_conscientia\_).

The relation between the known and the knower is threefold. Cognition is

incomplete and lacks the free co-operation of the knower when God merely

pervades (\_durchwohnt\_) the creature, as is the case
with the devil's

timorous and reluctant knowledge of God. A higher stage is reached when the

known is present to the knower and dwells with him

( beiwohnt ). Cognition

becomes really free and perfect when God dwells in (\_inwohnt\_) the

creature, in which case the finite reason yields itself freely and in

admiration to the divine reason, lets the latter speak in itself, and

feels its rule, not as foreign, but as its own. (Baader maintains a like

threefoldness in the practical sphere: the creature is either the object

or, rather, the passive recipient, or the organ, or the representative of

the divine action, i.e., in the first case, God alone works; in the second,

he co-operates with the creature; in the third, the creature works with the

forces and in the name of God. Joyful obedience, conscious of its grounds,

is the highest freedom). Knowing and loving, thought and volition,

knowledge and faith, philosophy and dogma are as little to be abstractly

divided as thing and self, being and thought, object and subject. True

freedom and genuine speculation are neither blind traditional belief nor

doubting, God-estranged thinking, but the free recognition of authority,

and self-attained conviction of the truth of the Church doctrine.

Baader distinguishes a twofold creation of the world and a double process

of development (an esoteric and an exoteric revelation) of God himself.

The creation of the ideal world, as a free act of love, is a non-deducible

fact; the theogonic process, on the contrary, is a necessary event by which

God becomes a unity returning from division to itself, and so a living God.

The eternal self-generation of God is a twofold birth: in the immanent

or logical process the unsearchable will (Father) gives

birth to the

comprehensible will (Son) to unite with it as Spirit; the place of this

self-revelation is wisdom or the Idea. In the emanent or real process,

since desire or nature is added to the Idea and is overcome by it, these

three moments become actual persons. In the creation of the--at first

immaterial--world, in which God unites, not with his essence, but with

his image only, the same two powers, desire and wisdom, operate as the

principles of matter and form. The materialization of the world is a

consequence of the fall. Evil consists in the elevation of selfhood, which

springs from desire, into self-seeking. Lucifer fell because of pride, and

man, yielding to Lucifer's temptation, from baseness, by falling in love

with nature beneath him. By the creation of matter God has out of pity

preserved the world, which was corrupted by the fall, from the descent into

hell, and at the same time has given man occasion for moral endeavor.

The appearance of Christ, the personification of the moral law, is the

beginning of reconciliation, which man appropriates through the sacrament.

Nature participates in the redemption, as in the corruption.

Friedrich Daniel Ernst Schleiermacher was born in 1768 at Breslau, and died

in 1834 in Berlin, where he had become preacher at Trinity church in 1809,

professor of theology in 1810, member of the philosophical section of the

Academy in 1811, and its secretary in 1814. Reared in the Moravian schools

at Niesky and Barby, he studied at Halle; and, between 1794 and 1804, was a

preacher in Landsberg on the Warthe, in Berlin (at the

Charité Hospital), and in Stolpe, then professor in Halle. He first attracted attention by the often republished Discourses on Religion addressed to the Educated among those who despise it\_, 1799 (critical edition by Pünjer, 1879), which was followed in the succeeding year by the Monologues , and the anonymous Confidential Letters on Lucinde (Lucinde was the work of his friend Fr. Schlegel). Besides several collections of sermons, mention must further be made of his Outlines of a Critique of Previous Ethics , 1803; The

Celebration of Christmas , 1806; and his chief

theological work, The

Christian Faith ,  $\overline{1822}$ , new edition 1830. In the third (the philosophical)

division of his Collected Works (1835-64) the second and third volumes

contain the essays on the history of philosophy, on ethical, and on

academic subjects; vols. vi. to ix., the Lectures on Psychology, Esthetics,

the Theory of the State, and Education, edited by George, Lommatsch,

Brandis, and Platz; and the first part of vol. iv., the History of

Philosophy (to Spinoza), edited by Ritter. The Monologues and The

Celebration of Christmas have appeared in Reclam's Bibliothek .

Schleiermacher's philosophy is a rendezvous for the most diverse systems.

Side by side with ideas from Kant, Fichte, and Schelling we meet Platonic,

Spinozistic, and Leibnitzian elements; even Jacobi and the Romanticists

have contributed their mite. Schleiermacher is an eclectic, but one who,

amid the fusion of the most diverse ideas, knows how to make his own

individuality felt. In spite of manifold echoes of the

philosophemes of

earlier and of contemporary thinkers, his system is not a conglomeration

of unrelated lines of thought, but resembles a plant, which in its own way

works over and assimilates the nutritive elements taken up from the

soil. Schleiermacher is attractive rather than impressive; he is less a

discoverer than a critic and systematizer. His fine critical sense works in

the service of a positive aim, subserves a harmonizing tendency; he

takes no pleasure in breaking to pieces, but in adjusting, limiting, and

combining. There is no one of the given views which entirely satisfies him,

none which simply repels him; each contains elements which seem to him

worthy of transformation and adoption. When he finds himself confronted by

a sharp conflict of opinion, he seeks by careful mediation to construct

a whole out of the two "half truths," though this, it is true, does not

always give a result more satisfactory than the partial views which he

wishes to reconcile. A single example may be given of this conciliatory

tendency: space, time, and the categories are not only subjective forms of

knowledge, but at the same time objective forms of reality. "Not only"

is the watchword of his philosophy, which became the prototype of the

numberless "ideal realisms" with which Germany was flooded after Hegel's

death. If the skeptical and eclectic movements, which constantly make their

appearance together, are elsewhere divided among different thinkers, they

here come together in one mind in the form of a mediating criticism, which,

although it argues logically, is yet in the end always guided by the

invisible cords of a \_feeling\_ of justice in matters scientific. In its

weaker portions Schleiermacher's philosophy is marked by lack of grasp,

pettiness, and sportiveness. It lacks courage and force, and the rare

delicacy of the thought is not entirely able to compensate for this defect.

In its fear of one-sidedness it takes refuge in the arms of an often

faint-hearted policy of reconciliation.

We shall not discuss the specifically theological achievements of this

many-sided man, nor his great services in behalf of the philological

knowledge of the history of philosophy--through his translation of Plato,

1804-28, and a series of valuable essays on Greek thinkers--but shall

confine our attention to the leading principles of his theory of knowledge,

of religion, and of ethics.

The \_Dialectic\_[1] (edited by Jonas, 1839), treats in a transcendental part

and a technical or formal part of the concept and the forms of knowledge.

\_Knowledge\_ is thought. What distinguishes that thought which we call

knowledge from that other thought which does not deserve this honorable

title, from mere opinion? Two criteria: its agreement with the thought of

other thinkers (its universality and necessity), and its agreement with

the being which is thought in it. That thought alone is knowledge which is

represented as necessarily valid for all who are capable of thought, and

as corresponding to a being or reproducing it. These two agreements (among

thinkers, and of thought with the being which is thought) are the criteria

of knowledge--let us turn now to its factors. These are

essentially the

two brought forward by Kant, sensibility and understanding; Schleiermacher

calls them the organic function and the intellectual function. The organic

activity of the senses furnishes us, in sensations, the unordered, manifold

material of knowledge, which is formed and unified by the activity of

reason. If we except two concepts which limit our knowledge, chaos and

God--absolute formlessness or chaos is an idea just as incapable of

realization as absolute unity or deity--every actual cognition is a product

of both factors, of the sensuous organization and of reason. But these two

do not play equal parts in every cognitive act. When the organic function

is predominant we have perception; when the intellectual function

predominates we have thought in the strict sense. A perfect balance of the

two would be intuition, which, however, constitutes the goal of knowledge,

never fully to be realized. These two kinds of knowledge, therefore, are

not specifically, but only relatively, different: in all perception reason

is also active, and in all thought sensibility, only to a less degree than

the opposite function. Moreover, perception and thought, or sensibility and

reason, are by no means to relate to different objects. They have the same

object, only that the organic activity represents it as an indefinite,

chaotic manifold, while the activity of reason (whose work consists

in discrimination and combination), represents it as a well-ordered

multiplicity and unity. It is the same being which is represented by

perception in the form of an "image," and by thought in the form of a

"concept." In the former case we have the world as chaos; in the latter, we

have it as cosmos. Inasmuch as the two factors in knowledge represent the

same object in relatively different ways, it may be said of them that they

are opposed to each other, and yet identical. The same is true of the two

modes of being which Schleiermacher posits as real and ideal over against

the two factors in thought. The real is that which corresponds to the

organic function, the ideal that which corresponds to the activity of

reason. These forms of being also are opposed, and yet identical. Our

self-consciousness gives clear proof of the fact that \_thought and being\_

can be \_identical\_; in it, as thinking being, we have the identity of the

real and the ideal, of being and thought immediately given. As the ego,

in which the subject of thought and the object of thought are one, is the

undivided ground of its several activities, so God is the primal unity,

which lies at the basis of the totality of the world. As in Schelling, the

absolute is described as self-identical, absolute unity, exalted above

the antithesis of real and ideal, nay, above all antitheses. God is the

negation of opposites, the world the totality of them. If there were

an adequate knowledge of the absolute identity it would be an absolute

knowledge. This is denied, however, to us men, who are never able to rise

above the opposition of sensuous and intellectual cognition. The unity of

thought and being is presupposed in all thinking, but can never actually

be thought. As an Idea this identity is indispensable, but to think it

definitely, either by conception or judgment, is

impossible. The concepts

supreme power (God or creative nature) and supreme cause (fate or

providence) do not attain to that which we seek to think in them: that

which has in it no opposition is an idea incapable of realization by man,

but, nevertheless, a necessary ideal, the presupposition of all cognition

(and volition), and the ground of all certitude. All knowledge must be

related to the absolute unity and be accompanied by it. Since, then, the

absolute identity cannot be presented, but ever sought for only, and

absolute knowledge exists only as an ideal, dialectic is not so much a

science as a technique of thought and proof, an introduction to philosophic

thinking or (since knowledge is thought in common) to discussion in

conformity with the rules of the art. With this the name dialectic returns

to its original Platonic meaning.

[Footnote 1: Cf. Quaebicker, \_Ueber Schleiermachers erkeuntnisstheoretische

Grundansicht\_, 1871, and the \_Inquiries\_ by Bruno Weiss in the Zeitschrift

für Philosophie\_, vols. lxxiii.-lxxv., 1878-79.]

The popular ideas of God ill stand examination by the standard furnished

by the principle of identity. The plurality of attributes which we are

accustomed to ascribe to God agree but poorly with his unity free from all

contrariety. In reality God does not possess these manifold attributes;

they first arise in the religious consciousness, in which his unconditioned

and undivided working is variously reflected and, as it were, divided. They

are only the various reflections of his undivided nature in the mind of

the observer. In God ability and performance, intelligence and will, his

thought of self and his thought of the world coincide in one. Even

the concept of personality must not be ascribed to God, since it is a

limitation of the infinite and belongs to mythology; while the idea of

life, on the contrary, is allowable as a protection against atheism and

fatalism. When Schleiermacher, further, equates the activity of God and the

causality of nature he ranges himself on the pantheistic side in regard

to the question of the "immanence or transcendence of God," without being

willing to acknowledge it. It sounds Spinozistic enough when he says: God

never was without the world, he exists neither before nor outside it, we

know him only \_in\_ us and in things. Besides that which he actually brings

forth, God could not produce anything further, and just as little does he

miraculously interfere in the course of the world as regulated by natural

law. Everything takes place necessarily, and man is distinguished above

other beings neither by freedom (if by freedom we understand anything more

than inner necessitation) nor by eternal existence. Like all individual

beings, so we are but changing states in the life of the universe, which,

as they have arisen, will disappear again. The common representations of

immortality, with their hope of future compensation, are far from pious.

The true immortality of religion is this--amid finitude to become one with

the infinite, and in one moment to be eternal.

Schleiermacher's optimism well harmonizes with this view of the relation

between God and the world. If the universe is the

phenomenon of the

divine activity, then considered as a whole it is perfect; whatever of

imperfection we find in it, is merely the inevitable result of finitude.

The bad is merely the less perfect; everything is as good as it can be;

the world is the best possible; everything is in its right place; even the

meanest thing is indispensable; even the mistakes of men are to be treated

with consideration. All is good and divine. In this way Schleiermacher

weds ideas from Spinoza to Leibnitzian conceptions. From the former he

appropriates pantheism, from the latter optimism and the concept of

individuality; he shares determinism with both: all events, even the

decisions of the will, are subject to the law of necessity.

In the \_philosophy of religion\_ Schleiermacher created a new epoch by his

separation between religion and related departments with which it had often

been identified before his time, as it has been since. In its origin and

essence religion is not a matter of knowing, further, not a matter of

willing, but a matter of the heart. It lies quite outside the sphere of

speculation and of practice, coincides neither with metaphysics nor with

ethics, is not knowledge and not volition, but an intermediate third: it

has its own province in the emotional nature, where it reigns without

limitation; its essence is intuition and feeling in undivided unity. In

\_feeling\_ is revealed the presence of the infinite; in feeling we become

immediately aware of the Deity. The absolute, which in cognition and

volition we only presuppose and demand, but never

attain, is actually

given in feeling alone as the relative identity and the common ground

of cognition and volition. Religion is \_piety\_, an affective, not an

objective, consciousness. And if certain religious ideas and actions

ally themselves with the pious state of mind, these are not essential

constituents of religion, but derivative elements, which possess a

religious significance only in so far as they immediately develop from

piety and exert an influence upon it. That which makes an act religious

is always feeling as a point of indifference between knowing and doing,

between receptive and forthgoing activity, as the center and junction

of all the powers of the soul, as the very focus of personality. And as

feeling in general is the middle point in the life of the soul, so, again,

the religious feeling is the root of all genuine feeling. What sort of a

feeling, then, is piety? Schleiermacher answers: A feeling of absolute

dependence\_. Dependence on what? On the universe, on God. Religion grows

out of the longing after the infinite, it is the sense and taste for the

All, the direction toward the eternal, the impulse toward the absolute

unity, immediate experience of the world harmony; like art, religion is the

immediate apprehension of a whole. In and before God all that is individual

disappears, the religious man sees one and the same thing in all that is

particular. To represent all events in the world as actions of a God,

to see God in all and all in God, to feel one's self one with the

eternal, -- this is religion. As we look on all being within us and without

as proceeding from the world-ground, as determined by an ultimate cause, we

feel ourselves dependent on the divine causality. Like all that is finite,

we also are the effect of the absolute Power. While we stand in a relation

of interaction with the individual parts of the world, and feel ourselves

partially free in relation to them, we can only receive effects from God

without answering them; even our self-activity we have from him.

Nevertheless the feeling of dependence is not to be depressing, not

humbling merely, but the joyous sense of an exaltation and broadening of

life. In our devotion to the universe we participate in the life of the

universe; by leaning on the infinite we supplement our finitude--religion

makes up for the needy condition of man by bringing him into relation with

the absolute, and teaching him to know and to feel himself a part of the whole.

From this elevating influence of religion, which Schleiermacher eloquently

depicts, it is at once evident that his definition of it as a feeling of

absolute dependence is only half correct. It needs to be supplemented by

the feeling of freedom, which exalts us by the consciousness of the oneness

of the human reason and the divine. It is only to this side of religion,

neglected by Schleiermacher, that we can ascribe its inspiring influence,

which he in vain endeavors to derive from the feeling of dependence. Power

can never spring from humility as such. This defect, however, does not

detract from Schleiermacher's merit in assigning to religion a special

field of spiritual activity. While Kant treats religion

as an appendix to

ethics, and Hegel, with a one-sidedness which is still worse, reduces it to

an undeveloped form of knowledge, Schleiermacher recognizes that it is

not a mere concomitant phenomenon--whether an incidental result or a

preliminary stage--of morality or cognition, but something independent,

co-ordinate with volition and cognition, and of equal legitimacy. The proof

that religion has its habitation in feeling is the more deserving of thanks

since it by no means induced Schleiermacher to overlook the connection of

the God-consciousness with self-consciousness and the consciousness of

the world. Schleiermacher's theory, moreover, may be held correct without

ignoring the relatively legitimate elements in the views of religion which

he attacked. With the view that religion has its seat in feeling, it is

quite possible to combine a recognition of the fact that it has its origin

in the will, and its basis in morals, and that, further, it has the

significance of being (to use Schopenhauer's words) the "metaphysics of the people."

Although religion and piety be made synonymous, it must still be admitted

that in a being capable of knowing and willing as well as of feeling, this

devout frame will have results in the spheres of cognition and action. In

regard to \_cultus\_ Schleiermacher maintains that a
religious observance

which does not spring from one's own feeling and find an echo therein is

superstitious, and demands that religious feeling, like a sacred melody,

accompany all human action, that everything be done with religion, nothing

from religion. Instead of expressing itself in single specifically

religious actions, the religious feeling should uniformly pervade the whole

life. Let a private room be the temple where the voice of the priest is

raised. Dogmas, again, are descriptions of pious excitation, and take their

origin in man's reflection on his religious feelings, in his endeavor to

explain them, in his expression of them in ideas and words. The concepts

and principles of theology are valid only as descriptions and presentations

of feelings, not as cognitions; by their unavoidable anthropomorphic

character alone they are completely unfitted for science. The dogmatic

system is an envelopment which religion accepts with a smile. He who treats

religious doctrines as science falls into empty mythology. Principles of

faith and principles of knowledge are in no way related to one another,

neither by way of opposition nor by way of agreement; they never come into

contact. A theology in the sense of an actual science of God is impossible.

Further, out of its dogmas the Church constructs prescriptive symbols, a

step which must be deplored. It is to be hoped that some time religion will

no longer have need of the Church. In view of the present condition of

affairs it must be said that the more religious a man is the more secular

he must become, and that the cultured man opposes the Church in order to promote religion.

So-called natural religion is nothing more than an abstraction of thought;

in reality positive religions alone exist. Because of the infinity of God

and the finitude of man, the one, universal, eternal

religion can only manifest itself in the form of particular historical religions, which are termed revealed because founded by religious heroes, creative personalities, in whom an especially lively religious feeling is aroused by a new view of the universe, and determines (not, like artistic inspiration, single moments, but) their whole existence. Three stages are to be distinguished in the development of religion, according as the world is represented as an unordered unity (chaos), or as an indeterminate manifold of forces and elements (plurality without unity), or, finally, as an organized plurality dominated by unity (system) -fetichism with fatalism, polytheism, mono- (including pan-) theism. Among the religions of the third stadium Islam is physical or aesthetic in spirit; Judaism and Christianity, on the other hand, ethical or teleological. The Christian religion is the most perfect, because it gives the central place to the concept of redemption and reconciliation (hence to that which is essential to religion) instead of to the Jewish idea of retribution.

The concept of individuality became of the highest importance for Schleiermacher's ethics, as well as for his philosophy of religion; and

by his high appreciation of it he ranges himself with Leibnitz, Herder,

Goethe, and Novalis. Now two sides may be distinguished both in regard to

that which the individual is and to that which he ought to accomplish. Like

every particular being, man is an abbreviated, concentrated presentation of the universe; he contains everything in himself, contains all, that is, in

a not yet unfolded, germinal manner, awaiting development in life in time,

but yet in a form peculiar to him, which is never repeated elsewhere. This

yields a twofold moral task. The individual ought to rouse into actuality

the infinite fullness of content which he possesses as possibility, as

slumbering germs, should harmoniously develop his capacities; yet in this

he must not look upon the unique form which has been bestowed upon him

as worthless. He is not to feel himself a mere specimen, an unimportant

repetition of the type, but as a particular, and in this particularity a

significant, expression of the absolute, whose omission would cause a gap

in the world. It is surprising that the majority of the thinkers who

have defended the value of individuality lay far less stress upon the

micro-cosmical nature of the individual and the development of his

capacities in all directions than on care for his peculiar qualities.

So also Schleiermacher. Yet he gradually returned from the extreme

individualism--the \_Monologues\_ affect one almost repellently by the

impulse which they give to vain self-reflection--which he at first defended.

In the \_Ethics\_ (edited by Kirchmann, 1870; earlier editions by Schweizer,

1835, and Twesten, 1841) Schleiermacher brings the wellnigh forgotten

concept of goods again into honor. The three points of view from which

ethics is to be discussed, and each of which presents the whole ethical

field in its own peculiar way--the good, virtue, duty--are related as

resultant, force, and law of motion. Every union of

reason and nature produced by the action of the former on the latter is called a \_good\_; the sum of these unities, the highest good. According as reason uses nature as an instrument in formation or as a symbol in cognition her action is formative or indicative; it is, further, either common or peculiar. On the crossing of these (fluctuating) distinctions of identical and individual organization and symbolization is based the division of the theory of goods:

SPHERES. RELATIONS.

GOODS.

\_Ident. Organ.:\_ Intercourse. Right.

The State.

\_Individ. Organ.:\_ Property. Free Sociability. Class, House,

Friendship.

\_Ident. Symbol:\_ Knowledge. Faith. School and

University.

\_Individ. Symbol:: Feeling. Revelation. The Church

(Art).

The four ethical communities, each of which represents the organic union of opposites--rulers and subjects, host and guests, teachers and pupils or scholars and the public, the clergy and the laity-have for their

foundation the family and the unity of the nation. Virtue (the personal

unification of reason and sensibility) is either disposition or skill, and

in each case either cognitive or presentative; this yields the cardinal

virtues wisdom, love, discretion, and perseverance. The

division of duties

into duties of right, duties of love, duties of vocation, and duties of

conscience rests on the distinction between community in production and

appropriation, each of which may be universal or individual. The most

general laws of duty (duty is the Idea of the good in an imperative form)

run: Act at every instant with all thy moral power, and aiming at thy whole

moral problem; act with all virtues and in view of all goods, further,

Always do that action which is most advantageous for the whole sphere of

morality, in which two different factors are included: Always do that

toward which thou findest thyself inwardly moved, and that to which thou

findest thyself required from without. Instead of following further the

wearisome schematism of Schleiermacher's ethics, we may notice, finally,

a fundamental thought which our philosopher also discussed by itself:

The sharp contraposition of natural and moral law, advocated by Kant, is

unjustifiable; the moral law is itself a law of nature, viz., of rational

will. It is true neither that the moral law is a mere "ought" nor that the

law of nature is a mere "being," a universally followed
"must." For, on the

one hand, ethics has to do with the law which human action really follows,

and, on the other, there are violations of rule in nature also. Immorality,

the imperfect mastery of the sensuous impulses by rational will, has an

analogue in the abnormalities--deformities and diseasesin nature, which

show that here also the higher (organic) principles are not completely

successful in controlling the lower processes. The higher law everywhere

suffers disturbances, from the resistance of the lower forces, which cannot be entirely conquered. It is Schleiermacher's determinism which leads him, in view of the parallelism of the two legislations, to overlook their essential distinction.

Adherents of Schleiermacher are Vorländer (died 1867), George (died 1874), the theologian, Richard Rothe (died 1867; cf. Nippold, 1873 \_seq\_.), and the historians of philosophy, Brandis (died 1867) and H. Ritter (died 1869).[1]

[Footnote 1: W. Dilthey (born 1834), the successor of Lotze in Berlin, is publishing a life of Schleiermacher (vol. i. 1867-70). Cf. also Dilthey's briefer account in the \_Allgemeine deutsche Biographie\_, and Haym's \_Romantische Schule\_, 1870. Further, \_Aus Schleiermachers Leben, in Briefen\_, 4 vols., 1858-63.]

### CHAPTER XIII.

#### HEGEL.

Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel was born at Stuttgart on August 27, 1770. He attended the gymnasium of his native city, and, from 1788, the Tübingen seminary as a student of theology; while in 1793-1800 he resided as a private tutor in Berne and Frankfort-on-the-Main. In the latter city the plan of his future system was already maturing. A manuscript outline divides philosophy, following the ancient division, logic, physics, and ethics, into three parts, the first of which (the

fundamental science, the

doctrine of the categories and of method, combining logic and metaphysics)

considers the absolute as pure Idea, while the second considers it as

nature, and the third as real (ethical) spirit. Hegel habilitated in 1801

at Jena, with a Latin dissertation  $\_{\mbox{On}}$  the Orbits of the Planets , in

which, ignorant of the discovery of Ceres, he maintained that on rational

grounds--assuming that the number-series given in Plato's Timaeus is the

true order of nature--no additional planet could exist between Mars and

Jupiter. This dissertation gives, further, a deduction of Kepler's laws.

The essay on the \_Difference between the Systems of Fichte and Schelling

had appeared even previous to this. In company with Schelling he edited in

1802-03 the \_Kritisches Journal der Philosophie\_. The article on "Faith and

Knowledge" published in this journal characterizes the standpoint of Kant,

Jacobi, and Fichte as that of reflection, for which finite and infinite,

being and thought form an antithesis, while true \_speculation\_ grasps these

in their identity. In the night before the battle of Jena Hegel finished

the revision of his \_Phenomenology of Spirit\_, which was published in 1807.

The extraordinary professorship given him in 1805 he was forced to resign

on account of financial considerations; then he was for a year a newspaper

editor in Bamberg, and in 1808 went as a gymnasial rector to Nuremberg,

where he instructed the higher classes in philosophy. His lectures there

are printed in the eighteenth volume of his works, under the title

\_Propaedeutic\_. In the Nuremberg period fell his marriage and the

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publication of the Logic (vol. i. 1812, vol. ii.
1816). In 1816 he was
called as professor of philosophy to Heidelberg (where
the Encyclopedia
appeared, 1817), and two years later to Berlin. The
Outlines of the
Philosophy of Right, 1821, is the only major work which
was written in
Berlin. The Jahrbücher für wissenschaftliche Kritik,
founded in 1827 as
an organ of the school, contained a few critiques, but
for the rest he
devoted his whole strength to his lectures. He fell a
victim to the cholera
on November 14, 1831. The collected edition of his works
in eighteen
volumes (1832-45) contains in vols. ii.-viii. the four
major works which
had been published by Hegel himself (the Encyclopaedia
with additions
from the Lectures); in vols. i., xvi., and xvii. the
minor treatises; in
vols. ix.-xv. the Lectures, edited by Cans, Hotho,
Marheineke, and
Michelet. The Letters from and to Hegel have been added
as a nineteenth
volume, under the editorship of Karl Hegel, 1887.[1]
[Footnote 1: Hegel's Life has been written by Karl
Rosenkranz (1844), who
has also defended the master ( Apologie Hegels , 1858)
against R.
Haym (Hegel und seine Zeit, 1857), and extolled him as
the national
philosopher of Germany (1870; English by G.S. Hall).
Cf., further, the
neat popular exposition by Karl Köstlin, 1870, and the
essays by Ed. von
Hartmann, Ueber die dialektische Methode , 1868, and
Hegels Panlogismus
(1870, incorporated in the Gesammelte Studien und
Aufsätze , 1876). [The
English reader may consult E. Caird's Hegel in
Blackwood's Philosophical
Classics, 1883; Harris's Hegel's Logic , Morris's
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Hegel's Philosophy of the State and of History , and Kedney's Hegel's Aesthetics in Griggs's Philosophical Classics; and Wallace's translation of the "Logic"--from the Encyclopaedia --with Prolegomena, 1874, 2d. ed., Translation, 1892, Prolegomena to follow. Stirling's Secret of Hegel, 2 vols., London, 1865, includes a translation of a part of the Logic , and numerous translations from different works of the master are to be found in the Journal of Speculative Philosophy . The Lectures on the Philosophy of History have been translated by J. Sibree, M.A., in Bohn's Library, 1860, and E.S. Haldane is issuing a translation of those on the History of Philosophy, vol. i., 1892.--TR.]]

We may preface our exposition of the parts of the system by some remarks on Hegel's standpoint in general and his scientific method.

# %1. Hegel's View of the World and his Method.%

In Hegel there revives in full vigor the intellectualism which from the first had lain in the blood of German philosophy, and which Kant's moralism had only temporarily restrained. The primary of practical reason is discarded, and theory is extolled as the ground, center, and aim of human, nay, of all existence.

Leibnitz and Hegel are the classical representatives of the intellectualistic view of the world. In the former the subjective psychological point of view is dominant, in the latter, the objective cosmical position: Leibnitz argues from the

representative nature of the

soul to an analogous constitution of all elements of the universe; from the

general mission of all that is real, to be a manifestation of reason, Hegel

deduces that of the individual spirit, to realize a determinate series of

stages of thought. The true reality is reason; all being is the embodiment

of a pregnant thought, all becoming a movement of the concept, the world a

development of thought. The absolute or the logical Idea exists first as

a system of antemundane concepts, then it descends into the unconscious

sphere of nature, awakens to self-consciousness in man, realizes its

content in social institutions, in order, finally, in art, religion, and

science to return to itself enriched and completed,
\_i.e.\_, to attain a

higher absoluteness than that of the beginning.

Philosophy is the

highest product and the goal of the world-process. As will, intuition,

representation, and feeling are lower forms of thought, so ethics, art, and

religion are preliminary stages in philosophy; for it first succeeds in

that which these vainly attempt, in presenting the concept adequately, in conceptual form.

If we develop that which is contained as a constituent factor or by

implication in the intellectualistic thesis, "All being is thought

realized, all becoming a development of thought," we reach the following

definitions: (i) The object of philosophy is formed by the Ideas of things.

Its aim is to search out the concept, the purpose, the significance of

phenomena, and to assign to these their corresponding positions in

the world and in the system of knowledge. It is chiefly interested in

discovering where in the scale of values a thing belongs according to

its meaning and its destination; the procedure is teleological, valuing,

aesthetic. Instead of a causal explanation of phenomena we are given an

ideal interpretation of them. (So Lotze accurately describes the character

of German idealism.) (2) If all that is real is a manifestation of reason

and each thing a stage, a modification of thought, then thought and being

are identical. (3) If the world is thought in becoming, and philosophy has

to set forth this process, philosophy is a theory of development. If each

thing realizes a thought, then all that is real is rational; and if the

world-process attains its highest stadium in philosophy, and this in

turn its completion in the system of absolute idealism, then all that is

rational is real. Reason or the Idea is not merely a demand, a longed for

ideal, but a world-power which accomplishes its own realization. "The

rational is real and the real is rational" (Preface to the Philosophy of

Right\_). Or to sum it up--Hegel's philosophy is
\_idealism, a system

of identity, and an optimistic doctrine of development\_. What, then,

distinguishes Hegel from other idealists, philosophers of identity, and

teachers of development? What in particular distinguishes him from his predecessor Schelling?

In Schelling nature is the subject and art the conclusion of the

development; his idealism has a physical and aesthetical character, as

Fichte's an ethical character. In Hegel, however, the

concept is the subject and goal of the development, his philosophy is, in the words of Haym, a "\_Logisierung\_" of the world, a \_logical idealism\_.

The theory of identity is that system which looks upon nature and spirit as

one in essence and as phenomenal modes of an absolute which is above them

both. But while Schelling treats the real and the ideal as having equal

rights, Hegel restores the Fichtean subordination of nature to spirit,

without, however, sharing Fichte's contempt for nature. Nature is neither

co-ordinate with spirit nor a mere instrument for spirit, but a transition

stage in the development of the absolute, viz., the Idea in its other-being

\_(Anderssein)\_. It is spirit itself that becomes nature in order to become

actual, conscious spirit; before the absolute became nature it was already

spirit, not, indeed, "for itself" \_(für sich)\_, yet "in itself" \_(an

sich)\_, it was Idea or reason. The ideal is not merely the morning which

follows the night of reality, but also the evening which precedes it.

The absolute (the concept) develops from in-itself \_(Ansich)\_ through

out-of-self \_(Aussersich)\_ or other-being to for-itself \_(Fürsich)\_; it

exists first as reason (system of logical concepts), then as nature,

finally as living spirit. Thus Hegel's philosophy of identity is

distinguished from Schelling's by two factors: it subordinates nature to

spirit, and conceives the absolute of the beginning not as the indifference

of the real and ideal, but as ideal, as a realm of eternal thoughts.

The assertion that Hegel represents a synthesis of Fichte and Schelling is

therefore justified. This is true, further, for the character of Hegel's

thought as a whole, in so far as it follows a middle course between the

world-estranged, rigid abstractness of Fichte's thinking and Schelling's

artistico-fanciful intuition, sharing with the former its logical

stringency as well as its dominant interest in the philosophy of spirit,

and with the latter its wide outlook and its sense for the worth and the

richness of that which is individual.

We have characterized Hegel's system, thirdly, as a philosophy of

development. The point of distinction here is that Hegel carries out with

logical consecutiveness and up to the point of obstinacy the principle

of development which Fichte had discovered, and which Schelling also

had occasionally employed, -- the threefold rhythm thesis, antithesis,

synthesis\_. Here we come to Hegel's \_dialectic method\_. He reached this as

the true method of speculation through a comparison of the two forms of

philosophy which he found dominant at the beginning of his career--the

Illumination culminating in Kant, on the one hand, and, on the other, the

doctrine of identity defended by Schelling and his circle--neither of which entirely satisfied him.

In regard to the main question he feels himself one with Schelling:

philosophy is to be metaphysics, the science of the absolute and its

immanence in the world, the doctrine of the identity of opposites, of the,

\_per se\_ of things, not merely of their phenomenon. But

the form which

Schelling had given it seems to him unscientific, unsystematic, for

Schelling had based philosophical knowledge on the intuition of genius--and

science from intuition is impossible. The philosophy of the Illumination

impresses him, on the other hand, by the formal strictness of its inquiry;

he agrees with it that philosophy must be science from concepts. Only not

from abstract concepts. Kant and the Illumination stand on the platform

of reflection, for which the antithesis of thought and being, finite and

infinite remains insoluble, and, consequently, the absolute transcendent,

and the true essence of things unknowable. Hegel wishes to combine the

advantages of both sides, the depth of content of the one, and the

scientific form of the other.

The intuition with which Schelling works is immediate cognition, directed

to the concrete and particular. The concept of the philosophy of reflection

is mediate cognition, moving in the sphere of the abstract and universal.

Is it not feasible to do away with the (unscientific) immediateness of the

one, and the (non-intuitive, content-lacking) abstractness of the other,

to combine the concrete with the mediate or conceptual, and in this way

to realize the Kantian ideal of an intuitive understanding? A concrete

concept\_ would be one which sought the universal not
without the

particular, but in it; which should not find the infinite beyond the

finite, nor the absolute at an unattainable distance above the world, nor

the essence hidden behind the phenomenon, but manifesting itself therein.

If the philosophy of reflection, in the abstract lifelessness of its

concepts, looked on opposites as incapable of sublation, and Schelling

regarded them as immediately identical, if the former denied the identity

of opposites, and the latter maintained it primordially given (in the

absolute indifference which is to be grasped by intuition), the concrete

concept secures the identity of \_opposites through selfmediation\_, their

passing over into it; it teaches us to know the identity as the result of a

process. First immediate unity, then divergence of opposites, and, finally,

reconciliation of opposites--this is the universal law of all development.

The conflict between the philosophy of reflection and the philosophy of

intuition, which Hegel endeavors to terminate by a speculation at once

conceptual and concrete, concerns (1) the organ of thought, (2) the object

of thought, (3) the nature and logical dignity of the contradiction.

The organ of the true philosophy is neither the abstract reflective

understanding, which finds itself shut up within the limits of the

phenomenal, nor mystical intuition, which expects by a quick leap to gain

the summit of knowledge concerning the absolute, but reason as the faculty

of concrete concepts. That concept is concrete which does not assume an

attitude of cold repulsion toward its contrary, but seeks self-mediation

with the latter, and moves from thesis through antithesis, and with it, to

synthesis. Reason neither fixes the opposites nor denies them, but has them

become identical. The unity of opposites is neither

impossible nor present from the first, but the result of a development.

The object of philosophy is not the phenomenal world or the relative, but

the absolute, and this not as passive substance, but as living subject,

which divides into distinctions, and returns from them to identity, which

develops through the opposites. The absolute is a process, and all that

is real the manifestation of this process. If science is to correspond

to reality, it also must be a process. Philosophy is thought-movement

(dialectic); it is a system of concepts, each of which passes over into

its successor, puts its successor forth from itself, just as it has been generated by its predecessor.

All reality is development, and the motive force in this development (of

the world as well as of science) is opposition, contradiction . Without

this there would be no movement and no life. Thus all reality is full of

contradiction, and yet rational. The contradiction is not that which is

entirely alogical, but it is a spur to further thinking. It must not

be annulled, but "sublated" \_(aufgehoben), \_i.e.\_, at once negated and

conserved. This is effected by thinking the contradictory concepts together

in a third higher, more comprehensive, and richer concept, whose moments

they then form. As sublated moments they contradict each other no longer;

the opposition or contradiction is overcome. But the synthesis is still

not a final one; the play begins anew; again an opposition makes its

appearance, which in turn seeks to be overcome, etc. Each separate concept

is one-sided, defective, represents only a part of the truth, needs to be

supplemented by its contrary, and, by its union with this, its complement,

yields a higher concept, which comes nearer to the whole truth, but still

does not quite reach it. Even the last and richest concept--the absolute

Idea--is by itself alone not the full truth; the result
implies the whole

development through which it has been attained. It is only at the end

of such a dialectic of concepts that philosophy reaches complete

correspondence with the living reality, which it has to comprehend; and the

speculative progress of thought is no capricious sporting with concepts

on the part of the thinking subject, but the adequate expression of

the movement of the matter itself. Since the world and its ground is

development, it can only be known through a development of concepts. The

law which this follows, in little as in great, is the advance from position

to opposition, and thence to combination. The most comprehensive example

of this triad--Idea, Nature, Spirit--gives the division of the system; the

second--Subjective, Objective, Absolute Spirit--determines the articulation of the third part.

# %2. The System.%

Hegel began with a \_Phenomenology\_ by way of introduction, in which (not to start, like the school of Schelling, with absolute knowledge "as though shot from a pistol") he describes the genesis of philosophical cognition with an attractive mingling of psychological and philosophico-historical

points of view. He makes spirit--the universal world-spirit as well as

the individual consciousness, which repeats in brief the stages in the

development of humanity--pass through six stadia, of which the first three

(consciousness, self-consciousness, reason) correspond to the progress

of the intermediate part of the Doctrine of Subjective Spirit, which is

entitled \_Phänomenologie\_, and the others (ethical spirit, religion, and

absolute knowledge) give an abbreviated presentation of that which the

Doctrine of Objective and Absolute Spirit develops in richer articulation.

%(a) Logic% considers the Idea in the abstract element of thought, only as

it is thought, and not yet as it is intuited, nor as it thinks itself; its

content is the truth as it is without a veil in and for itself, or God in

his eternal essence before the creation of the world. Unlike common logic,

which is merely formal, separating form and content, speculative logic,

which is at the same time ontology or metaphysics, treats the categories as

real relations, the forms of thought as forms of reality: as thought and

thing are the same, so logic is the theory of thought and of being in one.

Its three principal divisions are entitled \_Being, Essence, the Concept\_.

The first of these discusses quality, quantity, and measure or qualitative

quantum. The second considers essence as such, appearance, and (essence

appearing or) actuality, and this last, in turn, in the moments,

substantiality, causality, and reciprocity. The third part is divided into

the sections, subjectivity (concept, judgment, syllogism), objectivity

(mechanism, chemism, teleology), and the Idea (life, cognition, the absolute Idea).

As a specimen of the way in which Hegel makes the concept pass over into

its opposite and unite with this in a synthesis, it will be sufficient to

cite the famous beginning of the \_Logic\_. How must the absolute first be

thought, how first defined? Evidently as that which is absolutely without

presupposition. The most general concept which remains after abstracting

from every determinate content of thought, and from which no further

abstraction is possible, the most indeterminate and immediate concept, is

pure \_being\_. As without quality and content it is equivalent to nothing .

In thinking pure being we have rather cogitated nothing; but this in turn

cannot be retained as final, but passes back into being, for in being

thought it exists as a something thought. Pure being and pure nothing are

the same, although we mean different things by them; both are absolute

indeterminateness. The transition from being to nothing and from nothing to

being is \_becoming\_. Becoming is the unity, and hence the truth of both.

When the boy is "becoming" a youth he is, and at the same time is not, a

youth. Being and not-being are so mediated and sublated in becoming that

they are no longer contradictory. In a similar way it is further shown

that quality and quantity are reciprocally dependent and united in measure

(which may be popularly illustrated thus: progressively diminishing heat

becomes cold, distances cannot be measured in bushels); that essence and

phenomenon are mutually inseparable, inasmuch as the

latter is always the appearance of an essence, and the former is essence only as it manifests itself in the phenomenon, etc.

The significance of the Hegelian logic depends less on its ingenious and

valuable explanations of particulars than on the fundamental idea, that the

categories do not form an unordered heap, but a great organically connected

whole, in which each member occupies its determinate position, and is

related to every other by gradations of kinship and subordination. This

purpose to construct a \_globus\_ of the pure concepts was itself a

mighty feat, which is assured of the continued admiration of posterity

notwithstanding the failure in execution. He who shall one day take it up

again will draw many a lesson from Hegel's unsuccessful attempt. Before

all, the connections between the concepts are too manifold and complex

for the monotonous transitions of this dialectic method (which Chalybaeus

wittily called articular disease) to be capable of doing them justice.

Again, the productive force of thought must not be neglected, and to it,

rather than to the mobility of the categories themselves, the matter of the  $\ensuremath{\mathsf{T}}$ 

transition from one to the other must be transferred.

%(b) The Philosophy of Nature% shows the Idea in its other-being. Out of

the realm of logical shades, wherein the souls of all reality dwell,

we move into the sphere of external, sensuous existence, in which the

concepts take on material form. Why does the Idea externalize itself? In

order to become actual. But the actuality of nature is imperfect, unsuited

to the Idea, and only the precondition of a better actuality, the actuality

of spirit, which has been the aim from the beginning: reason becomes

nature in order to become spirit; the Idea goes forth from itself in

order--enriched--to return to itself again. Only the man who once has been

in a foreign land knows his home aright.

The relation of natural objects to one another and their action upon one

another is an external one: they are governed by mechanical necessity,

and the contingency of influences from without arrests and disturbs their

development, so that while reason is everywhere discernible in nature,

it is not reason alone; and much that is illogical, contrary to purpose,

lawless, painful, and unhealthy, points to the fact that the essence of

nature consists in externality. This inadequacy in the realization of the

Idea, however, is gradually removed by development,
until, in "life," the

way is prepared for the birth of spirit.

As Hegel in his philosophy of nature--which falls into three parts,

mechanics, physics, and organics--follows Schelling pretty closely, and,

moreover, does not show his power, it does not seem necessary to dwell

longer upon it. In the next section, also, in view of the fact that its

models, the constructive psychologies of Fichte and Schelling, have already

been discussed in detail, a statement of the divisions and connections must suffice.

%(c) The Doctrine of Subjective Spirit% makes freedom (being with or in

self) the essence and destination of spirit, and shows

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how spirit realizes
this predisposition in increasing independence of
nature. The subject of
anthropology is spirit as the (natural, sensitive, and
actual) "soul" of
a body; here are discussed the distinctions of race,
nation, sex, age,
sleeping and waking, disposition and temperament,
together with talents and
mental diseases, in short, whatever belongs to spirit in
its union with a
body. Phenomenology is the science of the "ego," i.e.,
of spirit, in so
far as it opposes itself to nature as the non-ego, and
passes through the
stages of (mere) consciousness, self-consciousness, and
(the synthesis of
the two) reason. Psychology (better pneumatology)
considers "spirit" in its
reconciliation with objectivity under the following
divisions: Theoretical
Intelligence as intuition (sensation, attention,
intuition), as
representation (passive memory, phantasy, memory), and
(as conceiving,
judging, reasoning) thought; Practical Intelligence as
feeling, impulse
(passion and caprice), and happiness; finally, the unity
of the knowing and
willing spirit, free spirit or rational will, which in
turn realizes itself
in right, ethics, and history.
%(d) The Doctrine of Objective Spirit%, comprehending
ethics, the
philosophy of right, of the state, and of history, is
Hegel's most
brilliant achievement. It divides as follows: (1) Right
(property,
contract, punishment); (2) Morality (purpose, intention
and welfare, good
and evil); (3) Social Morality: (a) the family; (b)
civil society; (c) the
state (internal and external polity, and the history of
the world). In
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right the will or freedom attains to outer actuality, in morality it

attains to inner actuality, in social morality to objective and subjective actuality at once, hence to complete actuality.

Right, as it were a second, higher nature, because a necessity posited and

acknowledged by spirit, is originally a sum of prohibitions; wherever it

seems to command the negative has only received a positive expression.

Private right contains two things--the warrant to be a person, and the

injunction to respect other persons as such. Property is the external

sphere which the will gives to itself; without property no personality.

Through punishment (retaliation) right is restored against un-right

(\_Unrecht\_), and the latter shown to be a nullity. The criminal is treated

according to the same maxim as that of his action--that coercion is allowable.

In the stadium of morality the good exists in the form of a requirement

which can never be perfectly fulfilled, as a mere imperative; there remains

an irrepressible opposition between the moral law and the individual will,

between intention and execution. Here the judge of good and evil is the

conscience, which is not secure against error. That which is objectively

evil may seem good and a duty to subjective conviction. (According to

Fichte this was impossible).

On account of the conflict between duty and will, which is at this stage

irrepressible, Hegel is unable to consider morality, the sphere of the

subjective disposition, supreme. He thinks he knows a

higher sphere,

wherein legality and morality become one: "social morality"

(\_Sittlichkeit\_). This sphere takes its name from Sitte , that custom

ruling in the community which is felt by the individual not as a command

from without, but as his own nature. Here the good appears as the spirit

of the family and of the people, pervading individuals as its substance.

Marriage is neither a merely legal nor a merely sentimental relation, but

an "ethical" (\_sittliches\_) institution. While love rules in the family, in

civil society each aims at the satisfaction of his private wants, and yet,

in working for himself, subserves the good of the whole. Class distinctions

are based on the division of labor demanded by the variant needs of men

(the agricultural, industrial, and thinking classes). Class and party honor

is, in Hegel's view, among the most essential supports of general morality.

Strange to say, he brings the administration of justice and the police into the same sphere.

The state, the unity of the family and civil society, is the completed

actualization of freedom. Its organs are the political powers (which are

to be divided, but not to be made independent): the legislative power

determines the universal, the executive subsumes the particular thereunder,

the power of the prince combines both into personal unity. In the will of

the prince the state becomes subject. The perfect form of the state is

constitutional monarchy, its establishment the goal of history, which

Hegel, like Kant, considers chiefly from the political standpoint.

History is the development of the rational state; the world-spirit the

guiding force in this development; its instruments the spirits of the

nations and great men. A particular people is the expression of but one

determinate moment of the universal spirit; and when it has fulfilled

its commission it loses its legal warrant, and yields up its dominion to

another, now the only authorized one: the history of the world is the

judgment of the world, which is held over the nations. The world-historical

characters, also, are only the instruments of a higher power, the purposes

of which they execute while imagining that they are acting in their own

interests--their own deed is hidden from them, and is neither their purpose

nor their object. This should be called the cunning of reason, that it

makes the passions work in its service.

History is progress in the consciousness of freedom. At first one only

knows himself free, then several, finally all. This gives three chief

periods, or rather four world-kingdoms,--Oriental despotism, the Greek

(democratic) and the Roman (aristocratic) republic, and the Germanic

monarchy, -- in which humanity passes through its several ages. Like the sun,

history moves from east to west. China and India have not advanced beyond

the preliminary stages of the state; the Chinese kingdom is a family state,

India a society of classes stiffened into castes. The Persian despotism is

the first true state, and this in the form of a conquering military state.

In the youth and manhood of humanity the sovereignty of the people replaces

the sovereignty of one; but not all have yet the consciousness of freedom,

the slaves have no share in the government. The principle of the Greek

world, with its fresh life and delight in beauty, is individuality; hence

the plurality of small states, in which Sparta is an anticipation of

the Roman spirit. The Roman Republic is internally characterized by the

constitutional struggle between the patricians and the plebeians, and

externally by the policy of world conquest. Out of the repellent relations

between the universal and the individual, which oppose one another as

the abstract state and abstract personality, the unhappy imperial period

develops. In the Roman Empire and Judaism the conditions were given for the

appearance of Christianity. This brings with it the idea of humanity: every

man is free as man, as a rational being. In the beginning this emancipation

was religious; through the Germans it became political as well. The

remaining divisions cannot here be detailed. Their captions run: The

Elements of the Germanic Spirit (the Migrations; Mohammedanism; the

Frankish Empire of Charlemagne); the Middle Ages (the Feudal System and the

Hierarchy; the Crusades; the Transition from Feudal Rule to Monarchy,

or the Cities); Modern Times (the Reformation; its Effect on Political

Development; Illumination and Revolution).

The philosophy of history[1] is Hegel's most brilliant and most lasting

achievement. His view of the state as the absolute end, the complete

realization of the good, is dominated, no doubt, by the antique ideal,

which cannot take root again in the humanity of modern

times. But his

splendid endeavor to "comprehend" history, to bring to light the laws of

historical development and the interaction between the different spheres of

national life, will remain an example for all time. The leading ideas of

his philosophy of history have so rapidly found their way into the general

scientific consciousness that the view of history which obtained in

the period of the Illumination is well nigh incomprehensible to the investigator of to-day.

[Footnote 1: A well-chosen collection of aphorisms from the philosophy of

history is given by M. Schasler under the title \_Hegel: Populäre Gedanken

aus seinen Werken\_, 2d. ed., 1873.]

%(e) Absolute Spirit% is the unity of subjective and objective spirit.

As such, spirit becomes perfectly free (from all contradictions)

and reconciled with itself. The break between subject and object,

representation and thing, thought and being, infinite and finite is done

away with, and the infinite recognized as the essence of the finite. The

knowledge of the reconciliation of the highest opposites or of the infinite

\_in\_ the finite presents itself in three forms: in the form of intuition

(art), of feeling and representation (religion), of thought (philosophy).

(1) \_Aesthetics\_.--The beautiful is the absolute (the infinite in the

finite) in sensuous existence, the Idea in limited manifestation. According

to the relation of these moments, according as the outer form or the inner

content predominates, or a balance of the two occurs, we

have the symbolic

form of art, in which the phenomenon predominates and the Idea is merely

suggested; or the classical form, in which Idea and intuition, or spiritual

content and sensuous form, completely balance and pervade each other, in

which the former of them is ceaselessly taken up into the latter; or

the romantic form, in which the phenomenon retires, and the Idea, the

inwardness of the spirit predominates. Classical art, in which form and

content are perfectly conformed to each other, is the most beautiful, but

romantic art is, nevertheless, higher and more significant.

Oriental, including Egyptian and Hebrew, art was symbolic; Greek art,

classical; Christian art is romantic, bringing into art entirely new

sentiments of a knightly and a religious sort--love, loyalty and honor,

grief and repentance--and understanding how by careful treatment to ennoble

even the petty and contingent. The sublime belongs to symbolic art; the

Roman satire is the dissolution of the classical, and humor the dissolution of the romantic, ideal.

Architecture is predominantly symbolic; sculpture permits the purest

expression of the classical ideal; painting, music, and poetry bear a

romantic character. This does not exclude the recurrence of these three

stages within each art--in architecture, for example, as monumental

(the obelisk), useful (house and temple), and Gothic (the cathedral)

architecture. As the plastic arts reached their culmination among the

Hellenes, so the romantic arts culminate among the

Christian nations. In

poetry, as the most perfect and universal (or the totality of) art, uniting

in itself the two contraries, the symbolic and the classical, the lyric

is a repetition of the architectonic-musical, the epic, of the

plastic-pictorial, the drama, the union of the lyric and the epic.

(2) \_Philosophy of Religion\_.--The withdrawal from outer sensibility into

the inner spirit, begun in romantic art, especially in poetry, is completed

in religion. In religion the nations have recorded the way in which they

represent the substance of the world; in it the unity of the infinite and

the finite is felt, and represented through imagination. Religion is not

merely a feeling of piety, but a thought of the absolute, only not in the

form of thinking. Religion and philosophy are materially the same, both

have God or the truth for their object, they differ only in form--religion

contains in an empirical, symbolic form the same speculative content which

philosophy presents in the adequate form of the concept. Religion is

developing knowledge as it gradually conquers imperfection. It appears

first as definite religion in two stadia, natural religion and the religion

of spiritual individuality, and finally attains the complete realization of

its concept in the absolute religion of Christianity.

Natural religion, in its lowest stage magic, develops in three forms--as

the religion of measure (Chinese), of phantasy (Indian or Brahmanical), and

of being in self (Buddhistic). In the Persian (Zoroastrian) religion of

light, the Syrian religion of pain, and the Egyptian

religion of enigma, is prepared the way for the transformation into the religion of freedom. The Greek solves the riddle of the Sphinx by apprehending himself as subject, as man.

The religion of spiritual individuality or free subjectivity passes through three stadia: the Jewish religion of sublimity (unity), the Greek religion of beauty (necessity), the Roman religion of purposiveness (of the understanding). In contrast to the Jewish religion of slavish obedience, which by miracle makes known the power of the one God and the nullity of nature, which has been "created" by his will, and the prosaic severity of the Roman, which, in Jupiter and Fortuna, worships only the world-dominion of the Roman people, the more cheerful art-religion of the Hellenes reverences in the beautiful forms of the gods, the powers which man is

aware of in himself--wisdom, bravery, and beauty.

The Christian or revealed religion is the religion of truth, of freedom, of spirit. Its content is the unity of the divine nature and the human, God as knowing himself in being known of man+; the knowledge of God is God's self-knowledge. Its fundamental truths are the Trinity (signifying that God differentiates and sublates the difference in love), the incarnation (as a figure of the essential unity of the infinite and finite spirit), the fall, and Christ's atoning death (this signifies that the realization of the unity between man and God presupposes the overcoming of naturality and selfishness).

(3) \_Philosophy\_.--Finally the task remains of clothing the absolute

content given in religion in the form adequate to it, in the form of the

concept. In philosophy absolute spirit attains the highest stage, its

perfect self-knowledge. It is the self-thinking Idea.

Here we must not look for further detailed explanations: philosophy is

just the course which has been traversed. Its systematic exposition is

encyclopaedia; the consideration of its own actualization, the history

of philosophy, which, as a "philosophical" discipline, has to show the

conformity to law and the rationality of this historical development, to

show the more than mere succession, the genetic succession, of systems,

as well as their connection with the history of culture. Each system

is the product and expression of its time, and as the self-reflection

of each successive stage in culture cannot appear before this has reached

its maturity and is about to be overcome. Not until the approach of the

twilight does the owl of Minerva begin its flight.

### CHAPTER XIV.

THE OPPOSITION TO CONSTRUCTIVE IDEALISM: FRIES, HERBART, SCHOPENHAUER.

In Fries, Herbart, and Schopenhauer a threefold opposition was raised

against the idealistic school represented by Fichte, Schelling, and

Hegel. The opposition of Fries is aimed at the method of the constructive

philosophers, that of Herbart against their ontological positions, and that

of Schopenhauer against their estimate of the value of existence. Fries

and Beneke declare that a speculative knowledge of the suprasensible is

impossible, and seek to base philosophy on empirical psychology; to the

monism (panlogism) of the idealists Herbart opposes a pluralism, to their

philosophy of becoming, a philosophy of being; Schopenhauer rejects their

optimism, denying rationality to the world and the world-ground. Among

themselves the thinkers of the opposition have little more in common than

their claim to a better understanding of the Kantian philosophy, and a

development of it more in harmony with the meaning of its author, than it

had experienced at the hands of the idealists. Whoever fails to agree

with them in this, and ascribes to the idealists whom they oppose better

grounded claims to the honor of being correct interpreters and consistent

developers of Kantian principles, will be ready to adopt the name

\_Semi-Kantians\_, given by Fortlage to the members of the opposition, --a

title which seems the more fitting since each of them appropriates only a

definitely determinable part of Kant's views, and mingles a foreign element

with it. In Fries this non-Kantian element comes from Jacobi's philosophy

of faith; in Herbart it comes from the monadology of Leibnitz, and the

ancient Eleatico-atomistic doctrine; in Schopenhauer, from the religion of

India and (as in Beneke) from the sensationalism of the English and the

French. We can only hint in passing at the parallelism which exists between

the chief representatives of the idealistic school and the leaders of

the opposition. Fries's theory of knowledge and faith is

the empirical

counterpart of Fichte's Science of Knowledge.

Schopenhauer, in his doctrine

of Will and Idea, in his vigorously intuitive and highly fanciful view of

nature and art, and, in general, in his aesthetical mode of philosophizing,

with its glad escape from the fetters of method, has so much in common with

Schelling that many unhesitatingly treat his system as an offshoot of the

Philosophy of Nature. The contrast between Herbart and Hegel is the more

pronounced since they are at one in their confidence in the power of the

concept. The most conspicuous point of comparison between the metaphysics

of the two thinkers is the significance ascribed by them to the

contradiction as the operative moment in the movement of philosophical

thought. The attitude of hostility which Schleiermacher assumed in relation

to Hegel's intellectualistic conception of religion induced Harms to give

to Schleiermacher also a place in the ranks of the opposition. Following

the chronological order, we begin with the campaign opened by Fries under

the banner of anthropology against the main branch of the Kantian school.

# %1. The Psychologists: Fries and Beneke.%

Jacob Friedrich Fries (1773-1843) was born and reared at Barby, studied

at Jena, and habilitated at the same university in the year 1801; he was

professor at Heidelberg in 1806-16, and at Jena from 1816 until his death.

His chief work was the \_New Critique of Reason\_, in three volumes, 1807

(2d ed., 1828 \_seq\_.), which had been preceded, in 1805, by the treatise

Knowledge, Faith, and Presentiment . Besides these he composed a Handbook of Psychical Anthropology , 1821 (2d ed., 1837 seq.), text-books of Logic, Metaphysics, the Mathematical Philosophy of Nature, and Practical Philosophy and the Philosophy of Religion, and a philosophical novel, Julius and Evagoras, or the Beauty of the Soul . Fries adopts and popularizes Kant's results, while he rejects Kant's method. With Reinhold and Fichte, he thinks "transcendental prejudice" has forced its way into philosophy, a phase of thought for which Kant himself was responsible by his anxiety to demonstrate everything. That \_a priori\_ forms of knowledge exist cannot be proved by speculation, but only by empirical methods, and discovered by inner observation; they are given facts of reason, of which we become conscious by reflection or psychological analysis. The a priori element cannot be demonstrated nor deduced, but only shown actually present. The question at issue[1] between Fries and the idealistic school therefore becomes, Is the discovery of the a priori element itself a cognition a priori or a posteriori ? Is the criticism of reason a metaphysical or an empirical, that is, an anthropological inquiry? Herbart decides with the idealists: "All concepts through which we think our faculty of knowledge are themselves metaphysical concepts" ( Lehrbuch zur Einleitung , p. 231). Fries decides: The criticism of reason is an empirico-psychological inquiry, as in general empirical psychology forms the basis of all philosophy.

[Footnote 1: Cf. Kuno Fischer's Pro-Rectoral Address,

\_Die beiden Kantischen Schulen in Jena , 1862.]

With the exception of this divergence in method Fries accepts Kant's

results almost unchanged, unless we must call the leveling down which they

suffer at his hands a considerable alteration. Only the doctrine of the

Ideas and of the knowledge of reason is transformed by the introduction and

systematization of Jacobi's principle of the immediate evidence of faith.

Reason, the faculty of Ideas, \_i.e.\_, of the indemonstrable yet indubitable

principles, is fully the peer of the sensibility and the understanding. The

same subjective necessity which guarantees to us the objective reality of

the intuitions and the categories accompanies the Ideas as well; the faith

which reveals to us the \_per se\_ of things is no less certain than the

knowledge of phenomena. The ideal view of the world is just as necessary as

the natural view; through the former we cognize the same world as through

the latter, only after a higher order; both spring from reason or the

unity of transcendental apperception, only that in the natural view we are

conscious of the fact, from which we abstract in the ideal view, that this

is the condition of experience. That which necessitates us to rise from

knowledge to faith is the circumstance that the empty unity-form of reason

is never completely filled by sensuous cognition. The Ideas are of two

kinds: the aesthetic Ideas are intuitions, which lack clear concepts

corresponding to them; the logical Ideas are concepts under which no

correspondent definite intuitions can be subsumed. The former are reached

through combination; the latter by negation, by thinking away the

limitations of empirical cognition, by removing the limits from the

concepts of the understanding. By way of the negation of all limitations we

reach as many Ideas as there are categories, that is, twelve, among which

the Ideas of relation are the most important. These are the three axioms of

faith--the eternity of the soul (its elevation above space and time, to be

carefully distinguished from immortality, or its permanence in time),

the freedom of the will, and the Deity. Every Idea expresses something

absolute, unconditioned, perfect, and eternal.--The dualism of knowledge

and faith, of nature and freedom, or of phenomenal reality and true, higher

reality, is bridged over by a third and intermediate mode of apprehension,

feeling or presentiment, which teaches us the reconciliation of the two

realities, the union of the Idea and the phenomenon, the interpenetration

of the eternal and the temporal. The beautiful is the Idea as it manifests

itself in the phenomenon, or the phenomenon as it symbolizes the eternal.

The aesthetico-religious judgment looks on the finite as the revelation and

symbol of the infinite. In brief, "Of phenomena we have knowledge; in the

true nature of things we believe; presentiment enables us to cognize the

latter in the former."

Theoretical philosophy is divided into the philosophy of nature, which

is to use the mathematical method, hence to give a purely mechanical

explanation of all external phenomena, including those of organic life,

and to leave the consideration of the world as a

teleological realm to

religious presentiment--and psychology. The object of the former is

external nature, that of the latter internal nature. I know myself only as

phenomenon, my body through outer, my ego through inner, experience. It

is only a variant mode of appearing on the part of one and the same

reality--so Fries remarks in opposition to the \_influxus physicus\_ and

the \_harmonia praestabilata\_--which now shows me my person inwardly as

my spirit, and now outwardly as the life-process of my body. Practical

philosophy includes ethics, the philosophy of religion, and aesthetics. In

accordance with the threefold interest of our animal, sensuo-rational, and

purely rational impulses, there result three ideals for the legislation of

values. These are the ideal of happiness, the ideal of perfection, and the

ideal of morality, or of the agreeable, the useful, and the good, the third

of which alone possesses an unconditioned worth and validity as a universal

and necessary law. The moral laws are deduced from faith in the equal

personal dignity of men, and the ennobling of humanity set up as the

highest mission of morality. The three fundamental aesthetical tempers are

the idyllic and epic of enthusiasm, the dramatic of resignation, the lyric of devotion.

Fries's system is thus a union of Kantian positions with elements from

Jacobi, in which the former experience deterioration, and the latter

improvement, namely, more exact formulation. Among his adherents, and he

has them still, the following appear deserving of mention: the botanists

Schleiden and Hallier; the theologian De Wette; the philosophers Calker (of

Bonn, died 1870) and Apelt (1812-59). The last made himself favorably known

by his \_Epochs of the History of Humanity\_, 1845-46, Theory of Induction ,

1854, and \_Metaphysics\_, 1857; his \_Philosophy of Religion (1860) did not

appear until after his death. The Catholic theologian, Georg Hermes of Bonn

(1775-1831) favored a Kantianism akin to that of Fries.

\* \* \* \* \*

The psychological view founded by Fries was consistently developed by

Friedrich Eduard Beneke (1798-1854). With the exception of three years of

teaching in Göttingen, 1824-27, whither he had gone in consequence of a

prohibition of his lectures called forth by his \_Foundation of the Physics

of Ethics\_, 1822, he was a member of the university of his native city,

Berlin, first as \_Docent\_, and, from 1832, after the death of Hegel, who

was unfavorably disposed toward him, as professor extraordinary.[1] Besides

Kant, Jacobi, and Fries, Schleiermacher, Herbart (with whom he became

acquainted in 1821), and the English thinkers exerted a determining

influence on the formation of his philosophy. Beneke denies the possibility

of speculative knowledge even more emphatically than Fries. Kant's

undertaking was aimed at the destruction of a non-experiential science from

concepts, and if it has not succeeded in preventing the neo-Scholasticism

of the Fichtean school, with its overdrawn attempts to revive a deductive

knowledge of the absolute, this has been chiefly due to the false,

non-empirical method of the great critic of reason. The

root and basis of

all knowledge is experience; metaphysics itself is an empirical science, it

is the last in the series of philosophical disciplines. Whoever begins with

metaphysics, instead of ending with it, begins the house at the roof.

The point of departure for all cognition is inner experience or

self-observation; hence the fundamental science is psychology, and all

other branches of philosophy nothing but applied psychology. By the inner

sense we perceive our ego as it really is, not merely as it appears to us;

the only object whose \_per se\_ we immediately know is our own soul; in

self-consciousness being and representation are one.

Thus, in opposition to

Kant, Beneke stands on the side of Descartes: The soul is better known

to us than the external world, to which we only transfer the existence

immediately given in the soul as a result of instinctive analogical

inference, so that in the descent of our knowledge from men organized

like ourselves to inorganic matter the inadequacy of our representations  $% \left( 1\right) =\left( 1\right) +\left( 1\right) +\left$ 

progressively increases.

[Footnote 1: On Beneke's character cf. the fourth of Fortlage's \_Acht

psychologische Vorträge\_, which are well worth reading.]

Psychology--we may mention of Beneke's works in this field the

\_Psychological Sketches\_, 1825-27, and the \_Text-book of Psychology , 1833,

the third and fourth (1877) editions of which, edited by Dressler, contain

as an appendix a chronological table of all Beneke's works--must, as

internal natural science, follow the same method, and, starting with

the immediately given, employ the same instruments in the treatment of

experience as external natural science, \_i.e.\_ the explanation of facts

by laws, and, further still, by hypotheses and theories. Gratefully

recognizing the removal of two obstacles to psychology, the doctrine of

innate ideas and the traditional theory of the faculties of the soul by

Locke and Herbart, (the commonly accepted faculties--memory, understanding,

feeling, will--are in fact not simple powers, but mere abstractions,

hypostatized class concepts of extremely complex phenomena,) Beneke seeks

to discover the simple elements from which all mental life is compounded.

He finds these in the numerous elementary faculties of receiving and

appropriating external stimuli, which the soul in part possesses, in part

acquires in the course of its life, and which constitute its substance;

each separate sense of itself includes many such faculties. Every act

or product of the soul is the result of two mutually dependent factors:

\_stimulus and receptivity\_. Their coming together gives the first of

the \_four fundamental processes\_, that of perception.

The second is

the constant addition of new elementary faculties. By the third,

the equilibration or reciprocal transfer of the movable elements in

representations, Beneke explains the reproduction of an idea through

another associated with it, and the widening of the mental horizon by

emotion, \_e.g.\_, the astounding eloquence of the angry. Since each

representation which passes out of consciousness continues to exist in the

soul as an unconscious product (where we cannot tell;

the soul is not in

space), it is not retention, but obliviscence which needs explanation. That

which persists of the representation which is passing into unconsciousness,

and which makes its reappearance in consciousness possible, is called

a "trace" in reference to its departed cause, and a "disposition"

(\_Angelegtheit\_) in reference to its future results.
Every such trace

or germ (\_Anlage\_)--that which lies intermediate between perception and

recollection--is a force, a striving, a tendency. The fourth of the

fundamental processes (which may be traced downward into the material

world, since the corporeal and the psychical differ only in degree and

pass over into each other) is the combination of mental products according

to the measure of their similarity, as these come to light in the formation

of judgments, comparisons, witticisms, of collective images, collective

feelings, and collective desires. The innate differences among men depend

on the greater or lesser "powerfulness, vivacity, and receptivity" of their

elementary faculties; all further differences arise gradually and are due

to the external stimuli; even the distinction between the human and the

animal soul, which consists in the spiritual nature of the former, is not original.

Of the five constructive forms of the soul, which result from the varying

relation between stimulus and faculty, four are emotional products or

products of moods. If the stimulus is too small pain (dissatisfaction,

longing) arises, while pleasure springs from a marked, but not too great,

fullness of stimulus. If the stimulus gradually increases to the point of

excess, blunted appetite and satiety come in; when the excess is sudden

it results in pain. A clear representation, a sensation arises when the

stimulus is exactly proportioned to the faculty; it is in this case only

that the soul assumes a theoretical attitude, that it merely perceives

without any admixture of agreeable or disagreeable feelings. Desire is

pleasure remembered, the ego the complex of all the representations which

have ever arisen in the soul, the totality of the manifold given within me.

For the immortality of the immaterial soul Beneke advances an original and

attractive argument based on the principle that, in consequence of the

constantly increasing traces, through which the substance of the soul is

continually growing, consciousness turns more and more from the outer

to the inner, until finally perception dies entirely away. At death the

connection with the outer world ceases, it is true, but not the inner being

of the soul, for which that which has hitherto been highest now becomes the

foundation for new and still higher developments.

Like Herbart, on whom he was in many ways dependent, Beneke discussed

psychology and pedagogics with greater success than logic, metaphysics,

practical philosophy, and the philosophy of religion. He combats the

apriorism of Kant in ethics as elsewhere. The moral law does not arise

until the end of a long development. First in order are the immediately

felt values of things, which we estimate according to the degree of

enhancement or depression in the psychical state which

they call forth.

From the feelings are formed concepts, from concepts judgments; and the

abstraction of the categorical imperative is a highly derivative phenomenon

and a very late result, although the feeling of oughtness or of moral

obligation, which accompanies the correct estimation of values and bids

us prefer spiritual to sensuous delights and the general good to our own

welfare, grows necessarily out of the inner nature of the human soul. There

are two sources of religion: one theoretical, for the idea of God; the

other practical, for the worship of God. We are impelled to the assumption

of a suprasensible, an unconditioned, a providence, on the one hand, by the

desire for a unitary conclusion for our fragmentary knowledge of the world;

and, on the other, by moral need, by our unsatisfied longing after the

good. The attributes which we ascribe to God are taken from experience, the

abstract attributes from being in general, the naturalistic from the world,

the spiritual from man. As an inevitable outcome of the transformation of

religious feelings into representations, and one which is harmless because

of the unmistakableness of their symbolic character, the anthropomorphic

predicates, through which we think the Deity as personal, themselves

establish the superiority of theism over pantheism. The object of religion,

moreover, is accessible only to the subjective certitude of feeling which

is given by faith, and not to scientific knowledge.

Feuerbach's anthropological standpoint will be discussed below. Like

Friedrich Ueberweg (1826-71; professor in Königsberg; System of Logic,

1857, 5th ed., edited by J.B. Meyer, 1882--English translation, 1871), Karl

Fortlage was strongly influenced in his psychological views by Beneke.

Born in 1806 at Osnabrück, and at his death in 1881 a professor in Jena,

Fortlage shared with Beneke an impersonality of character, as well as the

fate of meeting with less esteem from his contemporaries than he merited

by the seriousness and originality of his thinking. To his \_System of

Psychology\_, 1855, in two volumes, he added, as it were, a third volume,

his \_Contributions to Psychology\_, 1875, besides psychological lectures of

a more popular cast (\_Eight Lectures\_, 1869, 2d ed.,
1872; \_Four Lectures\_,

1874).[1] Fortlage characterizes his psychological method--in the criticism

of which F.A. Lange fails to show the justice for which he is elsewhere

to be commended--as observation by the inner sense. In the first place,

consciousness, as the active form of representation, must be separated from

that of which we are conscious, from the "content of representation," which

is in itself unconscious, but capable of coming into consciousness. Next

Fortlage seeks to determine the laws of these two factors. In regard to

the content of representation he distinguishes more sharply than Herbart

between the fusibility of the homogeneous and the capacity for complex

combination possessed by the heterogeneous (the fusion of similars goes on

even without aid from consciousness, while the connection of dissimilars is

brought about only through the help of the latter), and adds to these two

general properties of the content of representation two further ones, its

revivability (its persistence in unconsciousness), and

its dissolubility in

the scale of size, color, etc. Consciousness, on the other hand, which for

Fortlage coincides with the ego or self, is treated as the presupposition

of all representations, not as their result--it is underived activity. He

explains the nature of consciousness by the concept of attention,

characterizes them both as "questioning activity" (\_Fragethätigkeit\_), and

follows them out in their various degrees from expectation through

observation up to reflection. The listening and watching of the hunter

when waiting for the game is only a prolongation of the same consciousness

which accompanies all less exciting representations. The essential element

in conscious or questioning activity is the oscillation between yes and no.

As soon as the disjunction is decided by a yes, the desire which lies at

its basis, and which in the condition of consciousness is arrested, passes

over into activity. All consciousness is based on interest, and in its

origin is "arrested impulse" (\_Triebhemmung\_). "The direction of impulse

to an intuition to be expected only in the future is called

consciousness." The rank of a being depends on its capacity for

reflection: the greater the extent of its attention and the smaller

the stimuli which suffice to rouse this to action, the higher it stands.

Impulse--this is the fundamental idea of Fortlage's psychology, like will

with Fichte, and representation with Herbart--consists of an element of

representation and an element of feeling.

Pleasure + effort-image = impulse.

[Footnote 1: Among Fortlage's other works we may mention his valuable

\_History of Poetry\_, 1839; the \_Genetic History of Philosophy since Kant\_,

1852; and the attractive \_Six Philosophical Lectures\_, 1869, 2d ed., 1872.]

In his metaphysical convictions, to which he gave expression in his

 $\_$ Exposition and Criticism of the Arguments for the Existence of God ,

1840, among other works, Fortlage belongs to the philosophers of identity.

Originally sailing in Hegel's wake, he soon recognizes that the roots of

the theory of identity go back to the Kantio-Fichtean philosophy, with

which the system of absolute truth, as he holds, has come into being. He

thus becomes an adherent of the Science of Knowledge, whose deductive

results he finds inductively confirmed by psychological experience.

Psychology is the empirical test for the metaphysical calculus of the

Science of Knowledge. In regard to the absolute Fortlage is in agreement

with Krause, the younger Fichte, Ulrici, etc., and calls his standpoint

\_transcendent pantheism\_. According to this all that is good, exalted, and

valuable in the world is divine in its nature; the human reason is of

the same essence as the divine reason (there can be nothing higher than

reason); the Godhead is the absolute ego of Fichte, which employs the

empirical egos as organs, which thinks and wills in individuals, in so

far as they think the truth and will the good, but at the same time as

universal subject goes beyond them. If, after the example of Hegel, we give

up transcendent pantheism in favor of immanence, two unphilosophical modes of representing the absolute at once result--on the one hand, materialism; on the other, popular, unphilosophical theism. If the Fichtean Science of Knowledge could be separated from its difficult method, which it is impossible ever to make comprehensible to the unphilosophical mind, it would be called to take the place of religion.[1]

[Footnote 1: Among Fortlage's posthumous manuscripts was one on the

Philosophy of Religion, on which Eucken published an essay in the

\_Zeitschrift für Philosophie\_, vol. lxxxii. 1883, p. 180 \_seq\_. after

Lipsius had given a single chapter from it--"The Ideal of Morality

according to Christianity"--in his \_Jahrbücher für protestantische

Theologie\_ (vol. ix. pp. 1-45). The journals \_Im Neuen Reich\_, 1881, No.

24, and \_Die Gegenwart\_, 1882, No. 34, contained warmly written notices of

Fortlage by J. Volkelt. Leopold Schmid (in Giessen, died 1869) gives a

favorable and skillfully composed outline of Fortlage's system in his

\_Grundzüge der Einleitung in die Philosophie mit einer Beleuchtung der

von K. Ph. Fischer, Sengler, und Fortlage ermöglichten Philosophie der

That\_, 1860, pp. 226-357. Cf. also Moritz Brasch, \_K. Fortlage, Ein

philosophisches Charakterbild\_, in \_Unsere Zeit\_, 1883,
Heft II,

pp. 730-756, incorporated in the same author's
\_Philosophie der
Gegenwart , 1888.]

## %2. Realism: Herbart.%

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Johann Friedrich Herbart was scientifically the most
important among the
philosophers of the opposition. Herbart was born at
Oldenburg in 1776, the
son of a councilor of justice, and had already become
acquainted with the
systems of Wolff and Kant before he entered the
University of Jena in
1794. In 1796 he handed in to his instructor Fichte a
critique of two of
Schelling's treatises, in which the youthful thinker
already broke
away from idealism. While a private tutor in Switzerland
he made the
acquaintance of Pestalozzi. In 1802 he habilitated in
Göttingen, where, in
1805, he was promoted to a professorship extraordinary;
while in 1809 he
received the professorship in Königsberg once held by
Kant, and later by
W. Tr. Krug (died 1842). He died in 1841 at Göttingen,
whither he had been
recalled in 1833. His Collected Works were published
in twelve volumes,
1850-52 (reprinted 1883 seq .), by his pupil
Hartenstein, who has also
given an excellent exposition of his master's system in
his Probleme und
Grundlehren der allgemeinen Metaphysik , 1836, and his
Grundbegriffe der
ethischen Wissenschaften , 1844; a new edition, in
chronological order, and
under the editorship of K. Kehrbach, began to appear in
1882, or rather
1887, and has now advanced to the fourth volume, 1891.
Herbart's chief
works were written during his Königsberg residence: the
Text-book of
Introduction to Philosophy_, 1813, 4th ed., 1837 (very
valuable as an
introduction to Herbartian modes of thought); General
Metaphysics , 1829
(preceded in 1806 and 1808 by The Principal Points in
Metaphysics , with a
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supplement, The Principal Points in Logic); Text-book

of Psychology\_,[1] 1816, 2d ed., 1834; On the Possibility and Necessity of applying Mathematics to Psychology , 1822; Psychology as a Science , 1824-25. The two works on ethics, which were widely separated in time, were, on the other hand, written in Göttingen: General Practical Philosophy , 1808; Analytical Examination of Natural Right and of Morals , 1836. To these may be added a Discourse on Evil , 1817; Letters on the Doctrine of the Freedom of the Human Will , 1836; and the Brief Encyclopaedia of Philosophy , 1831, 2d ed., 1841. His works on education and instruction, whose influence and value perhaps exceed those of his philosophical achievements (collected editions of the pedagogical works have been prepared by O. Willmann, 1873-75, 2d ed., 1880; and by Bartholomaei), extended through his whole life. Besides pedagogics, psychology was the chief sphere of his services. [Footnote 1: English translation by M.K. Smith, 1891.] In antithesis to the philosophy of intuition with its imagined superiority to the standpoint of reflection, Herbart makes philosophy begin with attention to concepts, defining it as the elaboration of concepts. Philosophy, therefore, is not distinguished from other sciences by its object, but by its method, which again must adapt itself to the peculiarity of the object, to the starting point of the investigation in question -- there is no universal philosophical method. There are as many divisions of philosophy as there are modes of

elaborating concepts. The

first requisite is the discrimination of concepts, both the discrimination

of concepts from others and of the marks within each concept. This work

of making concepts clear and distinct is the business of logic. With this

discipline, in which Herbart essentially follows Kant, are associated two

other forms of the elaboration of concepts, that of physical and that

of aesthetic concepts. Both of these classes require more than a merely

logical elucidation. The physical concepts, through which we apprehend the

world and ourselves, contain contradictions and must be freed from them;

their correction is the business of meta-physics.

Metaphysics is the

science of the comprehensibility of experience. The aesthetic (including

the ethical) concepts are distinguished from the nature-concepts by a

peculiar increment which they occasion in our representation, and which

consists in a judgment of approval or disapproval. To clear up these

concepts and to free them from false allied ideas is the task of aesthetics

in its widest sense. This includes all concepts which are accompanied by a

judgment of praise or blame; the most important among them are the ethical

concepts. Thus, aside from logic, we reach two principal divisions of

philosophy, which are elsewhere contrasted as theoretical and practical,

but here in Herbart as metaphysics and aesthetics. Herbart maintains that

these are entirely independent of each other, so that aesthetics, since it

presupposes nothing of metaphysics, may be discussed before metaphysics,

while the philosophy of nature and psychology depend throughout on

ontological principles. Together with natural theology

the two latter

sciences constitute "applied" metaphysics. This in turn presupposes

"general" metaphysics, which subdivides into four parts: Methodology,

Ontology, Synechology, \_i.e.\_, the theory of the continuous ([Greek:

\_suneches\_]), which treats of the continua, space, time, and motion, and

Eidolology, \_i.e.\_, the theory of images or representations. The last forms

the transition to psychology, while synechology forms the preparation

for the philosophy of nature, whose most general problems it solves. Our

exposition will not need to observe these divisions closely.

Metaphysics starts with the given, but cannot rest content with it, for it

contains contradictions. In resolving these we rise above the given. What

\_is given\_? Kant has not answered this question with entire correctness.

We may, indeed, term the totality of the given "phenomena," but this

presupposes something which appears. If nothing existed there would also

nothing appear. As smoke points to fire, so appearance to being. So much

seeming, so much indication of being. Things in themselves may be known

mediately, though not immediately, by following out the indications of

being contained by the given appearance. Further, not merely the unformed

matter of cognition is given to us, but it is rather true that everything

comes under this concept which experience so presses on us that we cannot

resist it; hence not merely single sensations, but entire sensation-groups,

not merely the matter, but also the forms of experience. If the latter were

really subjective products, as Kant holds, it would

necessarily be possible

for us at will to think each perceptive-content either under the category

of substance, or property, or cause--possible for us, if we chose, to see

a round table quadrilateral. In reality we are bound in the application of

these forms; they are given for each object in a definite way. The given

forms--Herbart calls them experience-concepts--contain contradictions.

How can these contradictions be removed? We may neither simply reject the

concepts which are burdened with contradictions, for they are given, nor

leave them as they are, for the logical \_principium
contradictionis

requires that the contradiction as such be rooted out. The

experience-concepts are valid (they find application in experience), but

they are not thinkable. Therefore we must so transform and supplement them

that they shall become free from contradictions and thinkable. The method

which Herbart employs to remove the contradictions is as follows: The

contradiction always consists in the fact that an \_a\_ should be the same as

a  $_{\rm b}$ , but is not so. The desiderated likeness of the two is impossible so

long as we think  $\_a\_$  as  $\_$ one $\_$  thing. That which is unsuccessful in this

case will succeed, perhaps, if in thought we break up the \_a\_ into several

things--[Greek: \_a b  $g_{]}$ . Then we shall be able to explain through the

"together" (\_Zusammen\_) of this plurality what we were unable to explain

from the undecomposed \_a\_, or from the single constituents of it. The

"together" is a "relation" established by thought among the elements of the  $\ensuremath{\mathsf{E}}$ 

real. For this reason Herbart terms his method of finding out necessary

supplements to the given "the method of relations." Another name for the

same thing is "the method of contingent aspects." Mechanics operates with

contingent aspects when, for the sake of explanation, it resolves a given

motion into several components. Such fictions and substitutions--auxiliary

concepts, which are not real, but which serve only as paths for

thought--may be successfully employed by metaphysics also. The abstract

expression of this method runs: The contradiction is to be removed by

thinking one of its members as manifold rather than as one. In order to

observe the workings of this Herbartian machine we shall go over the four

principal contradictions by which his acuteness is put to the test--the

problems of inherence, of change, of the continuous, of the ego.

We call the given sensation-complexes "things," and ascribe "properties" to

them. How can one and the same thing have different properties--how can

the one be at the same time many? To say that the thing "possesses" the

properties does not help the matter. The possession of the different

properties is itself just as manifold and various as the properties which

are possessed. Hence the concept of the thing and its properties must be

so transformed that the plurality which seems to be in the thing shall be

transferred without it. Instead of one thing let us assume several, each

with a single definite property, from whose "together" the appearance

of many qualities in one thing now arises. The appearance of manifold

properties in the one thing has its ground in the "together" of many

things, each of which has one simple quality. Again, it is just as

impossible for a thing to have different qualities in succession, or to

change, as it is for it to have them at the same time. The popular view

of change, which holds that a thing takes on different forms (ice, water,

steam) and yet remains the same substance, is untenable. How is it possible

to become another, and yet to remain the same? The universal feeling that

the concept needs correction betrays itself in the fact that everyone

involuntarily adds a cause to the change in thought, and seeks a cause for

it, and thus of himself undertakes a transformation of the concept, though,

it is true, an inadequate one. If we think this concept through we come

upon a trilemma, a threefold impossibility. Whether we endeavor to deduce

the change from external or from internal causes, or (with Hegel) to think

it as causeless, in each case we involve ourselves in inconceivabilities.

All three ideas--change as mechanism, as self-determination or freedom,

as absolute becoming--are alike absurd. We can escape these contradictions

only by the bold decision to conceive the quality of the existent as

unchangeable. For the truly existent there is no change whatever. It

remains, however, to explain the appearance of change, in which the wand of

decomposition and the "together" again proves its magic power. Supported by

the motley manifoldness of phenomena, we posit real beings as qualitatively

different, and view this diversity as partial contraposition; we resolve,

\_e.g.\_, the simple quality \_a\_ into the elements  $_x_ + _z_$ , and a second quality \_b\_ into \_y - z\_. So long as the individual

things remain by

themselves, the opposition of the qualities will not make itself evident.

But as soon as they come together, something takes place--now the opposites

 $(+_z\_$  and  $-_z\_)$  seek to destroy or at least to disturb each other. The

reals defend themselves against the disturbance which would follow if the

opposites could destroy each other, by each conserving its simple,

unchangeable quality, \_i.e.\_, by simply remaining self-identical.

\_Self-conservation against\_ threatened \_disturbances\_ from without (it may

be compared to resistance against pressure) is the only real change, and

apparent change, the empirical changes of things, to be explained from

this. That which changes is only the relations between the beings, as a

thing maintains itself now against this and now against that other thing;

the relations, however, and their change are something entirely contingent

and indifferent to the existent. In itself the self-conservation of a real

is as uniform as the quality which is conserved, but in virtue of the

changing relations (the variety of the disturbing things) it can express

itself for the observer in manifold ways as force. The real itself changes

as little as a painting changes, for instance, when, seen near at hand, the

figures in it are clearly distinguished, while for the distant

observer, on the contrary, they run together into an indistinguishable

chaos. Change has no meaning in the sphere of the existent.

Anyone who speaks thus has denied change, not deduced it. Among the many

objections experienced by Herbart's endeavor to explain

the empirical

fact of change by his theory of self-conservation against threatened

disturbances Lotze's is the most cogent: The unsuccessful attempt to

solve the difficulties in the concept of becoming and action is still

instructive, for it shows that they cannot be solved in this way--from the

concept of inflexible being. If the "together," the threatened disturbance,

and the reaction against the latter be taken as realities, then, in the

affection by the disturber, the concept of change remains uneliminated and

uncorrected; if they be taken as unreal concepts auxiliary to thought,

change is relegated from the realm of being to the realm of seeming.

Herbart gives to them a kind of semi-reality, less true than the unmoving

ground of things (their unchangeable, permanent qualities), and more true

than their contradictory exterior (the empirical appearance of change).

Between being and seeming he thrusts in, as though between day and night,

the twilight region of his "contingent aspects," with their relations,

which are nothing to the real, their disturbances, which do not come to

pass, and their self-conservations, which are nothing but undisturbed

continuance in existence on the part of the real.

Besides the contradictions in the concepts of inherence, of change,

and action and passion, it is the concept of being which prevents our

philosopher from ascribing a living character to reality. Being, as Kant

correctly perceived, contains nothing qualitative; it is absolute position.

Whoever affirms that an object \_is\_, expresses thereby that the matter is

to rest with the simple position; in which is included that it is nothing

dependent, relative, or negative. (Every negation is something relative,

relates to a precedent position, which is to be annulled by it.) Besides

being, the existent contains something more--a quality; it consists of this

absolute position and a \_what\_. If this \_what\_ is separated from being we

reach an "image"; united with being it yields an essence or a real. This

\_what\_ of things is not their sensuous qualities; the latter belong rather

to the mere phenomenon. No one of them indicates what the object is by

itself, when left alone. They depend on contingent circumstances, and apart

from these they would not exist--what is color in the dark? what sound

in airless space? what weight in empty space? what fusibility without

fire?--they are each and all relative. Since being excludes negation of

every kind, the quality of the existent must be absolutely \_simple and

unchangeable\_; it brooks no manifoldness, no quantity,
no distinctions in

degree, no becoming; all this were a corruption of the purely affirmative

or positive character of being. The existent is unextended and eternal.

The Eleatics are to be praised because the need of escaping from the

contradictions in the world of experience led them to make themselves

masters of the concept of being without relation and without negation, and

of the simple, homogeneous quality of the existent in its full purity. But

while the Eleatics conceived the existent as one, the atomists made an

advance by assuming a \_plurality\_ of reals. The truly one never becomes

a plurality; plurality is given, hence an original

plurality must be

postulated. Herbart characterizes his own standpoint as qualitative

atomism, since his reals are differentiated by their properties, not by

quantitative relations (size and figure). The idealists and the pantheists

make a false use of the tendency toward unity which, no doubt, is present

in our reason, when they maintain that true being must be one. There is

absolutely nothing in the concept of being to forbid us to think the

existent as many; while the world of phenomena, with its many things and

their many properties, gives irrefragable grounds which compel us to this

conclusion. Hence, according to Herbart, the true reality is a (very

large, though not, it is true, an infinite[1]) plurality
of supra-sensible

(non-spatial and non-temporal) reals, or, according to the Leibnitzian

expression, monads, which all their life have nothing further to do than

to preserve intact against disturbances the simple quality in which they

consist (for the existent is not distinct from its quality; it does not

have the quality, but is the quality). Each thing has but one response for

the most varied influences: it answers all suggestions from without by

affirming its \_what\_, by continually repeating, as it were, the same note,

which gains a varying meaning only in so far as, in accordance with the

character of the disturber, it appears now as a third, now as a fifth or

seventh. This picture of the world is certainly not attractive; in it all

change and becoming, all life and all activity is offered up on the altar

of monotonous being. Happily Herbart is inconsistent enough to enliven this

comfortless waste of changeless being by the relatively real or semi-real

manifoldness of the self-conservations.

The infinite divisibility of space and of matter forms the chief difficulty

in the problem of the continuous. Herbart endeavors to solve it by the

assumption of an intelligible space with "fixed" lines (lines formed by a

definite number of points, hence finitely divisible, and not continuous).

Metaphysics demands the fixed or discrete line, although common thought

is incapable of conceiving it. Space is a mere form of combination in

representation or for the observer, and yet it is objective, \_i.e.\_, it is

valid for all intelligences, and not merely for human intelligence.

From his complex and unproductive endeavors to derive the appearance of

continuity from discontinuous reality we hurry on to the fourth, the

psychological problem, which Herbart discusses with great acuteness. He

considers it the chief merit of Fichte's Science of Knowledge that it

called attention to this problem.

The concept of the ego, of whose reality we have so strong and immediate a

conviction that, in the formula of asseveration, "as true as I exist,"

it is made the criterion of all other certitude, labors under various

contradictions. Besides the familiar difficulty, here especially sensible,

of one thing with many marks, it contains other absurdities of its own. In

the ego or self-consciousness subject and object are to be identical.

The identity of the representing and the represented ego is a

self-contradictory idea, for the law of contradiction

forbids the equation

of opposites, while a subject is subject only through the fact that it is

not object. But, again, self-consciousness can never be realized, because

it involves a \_regressus in infinitum\_. The ego is defined as that which

represents itself. What is this "self"? It is, in turn, the self-knower.

This new explanation contains still a further self; which once more

signifies the self-knower and so on to infinity. The ego represents the

representation (\_Vorstellen\_) of its representation (\_Vorstellen)\_, etc.

The representation (\_Vorstellung\_) of the ego, therefore, can never be

actually brought to completion. (The assumption of the freedom of the will

leads to an analogous \_regressus in infinitum\_, in which the question,

"Willst thou thy volition?" "Willst thou the willing of this volition"? is

repeated to infinity.) The only escape from this tissue of absurdities

is to think the ego otherwise than is done by popular consciousness. The

knowing and the known ego are by no means the same, but the observing

subject in self-consciousness is one group of representations, the observed

subject another. Thus, for example, newly formed representations are

apperceived by the existing older ones, but the highest apperceiver is not,

in turn, itself apperceived. The ego is not a unit being, which represents

itself in the literal meaning of the phrase, but that which is represented

is a plurality. The ego is the junction of numberless series of

representations, and is constantly changing its place; it dwells now in

this representation, now in that. But as we distinguish the point of

meeting from the series which meet there, and imagine that it is possible

simultaneously to abstract from all the represented series (whereas in fact

we can only abstract from each one separately), there arises the appearance

of a permanent ego as the unit subject of all our representations. In

reality the ego is not the source of our representations, but the final

result of their combination. The representation, not the ego, is the

fundamental concept of psychology, the ego constituting rather its most

difficult problem.[1] It is a "result of other representations, which,

however, in order to yield this result, must be together in a single

substance, and must interpenetrate one another" (\_Text-book of

Introduction\_, p. 243). In this way Herbart defends the substantiality

of the soul against Kant and Fries. The soul's immortality (as also its

pre-existence) goes without saying, because of the nontemporal character of the real.

[Footnote 1: On the Herbartian psychology, cf. Ribot, German Psychology of

To-day\_, English Translation by Baldwin, 1886, pp. 24-67; and G.F. Stout,

\_Mind\_, vols. xiii.-xiv.--TR.]

The soul is one of these reals which, unchangeable in themselves, enter

into various relations with others, and conserve themselves against the

latter. In its simple \_what\_ as unknowable as the rest, it is yet familiar

to us in its self-conservations. In the absence of a more fitting

expression for the totality of psychical phenomena we call these

\_representations\_, the phenomenal manifoldness of which

is due to the

variety of the disturbances and exists for the observer alone. In itself,

without a plurality of dispositions and impulses, the soul is originally

not a representative force, but first becomes such under certain

circumstances, viz., when it is stimulated to self-conservation by other

beings. The sum of the reals which stand in immediate relation to the soul

is called its body; this, an aggregate of simple beings, furnishes the

intermediate link of causal relation between the soul and the external

world. The soul has its (movable) seat in the brain. In opposition to the

physiological treatment of psychology, Herbart remarks that psychology

throws much more light on physiology than she can ever receive from it.

The simplest representations are the sensations, which, amid all their

variety, still group themselves into definite classes (odors, sounds,

colors). They serve us as symbols of the disturbing reals, but they are not

images of things, nor effects of these, but products of the soul itself:

the generation of sensations is the soul's peculiar way of guarding itself

against threatened disturbances. Every representation once come into being

disappears again from consciousness, it is true, but not from the soul.

It persists, unites with others, and stands with them in a relation of

interaction -- in both cases according to definite laws. These original

representations are the only ones which the soul produces by its own

activity; all other psychical phenomena, feeling, desire, will, attention,

memory, judgment, the whole wealth of inner events,

result of themselves

from the interplay of the primary representations under law. Representation

(more exactly sensation) is alone original; space, time, the categories,

which Kant makes \_a priori\_, are all acquired, \_i.e.\_, like all the higher

mental life, they are the results of a psychical
\_mechanism\_, results whose

production needs no renewed exertion on the part of the soul itself. It has

been a very harmful error in psychology hitherto to ascribe each particular

mental activity to a special \_faculty of the soul\_ having a similar name,

instead of deriving it from combinations of simple representations.

Abstract, empty class ideas have been treated as real forces, in the belief

that thus the single concrete acts had been "explained."

There is no bitterer foe of the faculty theory than Herbart. His campaign

against it, if not victorious, was yet salutary, and the motives of his

hostility, up to a certain point, entirely justified. Nothing is more

useless than the assurance that what the soul actually does, that it must

also have the power to do. Who disputes this? A faculty explains nothing

so long as the laws under which its functions and its relations to other

faculties remain unexplained. But although the faculty idea serves no

positive end, it cannot be entirely discarded. It marks the boundary where

our ability to reduce one class of psychical phenomena to another ceases.

Herbart's polemic has no force against the moderate and necessary use of

this idea, no matter how much it was in place in view of the impropriety of

a superfluous multiplication of the faculties of the soul. The realization

of the ideal of psychology, the reduction of the complex phenomena of

mental life to the smallest possible number of simple elements, is limited

by the heterogeneity of the original phenomena, knowing, feeling, willing,

which wholly resists derivation from the combination of sensations. That

which blinded Herbart to these limitations was that tendency toward unity,

which, as a metaphysician and moral philosopher, he had all too willfully

suppressed, and which now took revenge for this infringement of its rights

by misleading the psychologist to an exaggeration which had important

consequences. Nevertheless his unsuccessful attempt remains interesting and worthy of gratitude.

The discovery of the laws which govern the interaction of the psychical

elements is the task of a \_statics and a mechanics\_ of representations. The

former investigates the equilibrium or the settled final state; the latter,

the change, \_i.e.\_ the movements of representations. These names of

themselves betray Herbart's conviction that mathematics can and must be

applied to psychology. The bright hopes, however, which Herbart formed for

the attempt at a mathematical psychology, were fulfilled neither in his own

endeavors nor in those of his pupils, although, as Lotze remarks, it would

be asserting too much to say that the most general formulas which he set up

contradict experience. -- The unity of the soul forces representations to act

on one another. Disparate representations, those, that is, which belong

to different representative series, as the visual image

of a rose and the auditory image of the word rose, or as the sensations yellow, hard, round, ringing, connected in the concept gold piece, enter into complications [complexes]. Homogeneous representations (the memory image and the perceptual image of a black poodle) fuse into a single representation. Opposed representations (red and blue) arrest one another when they are in consciousness together. The connection and graded fusion of representations is the basis of their retention and reproduction, as well as of the formation of continuous series of representations. The reproduction is in part immediate, a free rising of the representation by its own power as soon as the hindrances give way; in part mediate, a coming up through the help of others. On the arrest of partially or totally opposed representations Herbart bases his psychological calculus. Let there be given simultaneously in consciousness three opposed representations of different intensities, the strongest to be called a , the weakest c\_, the intermediate one b. What happens? They arrest one another, i.e. a part of each is forced to sink below the threshold of consciousness.[1]

What is the amount of the arrest? As much as all the weaker representations together come to—the sum of arrest or the sum of that which becomes unconscious (as it were the burden to be divided) is equal to the sum of all the representations with the exception of the strongest (hence = \_b\_ + \_c\_), and is divided among the individual representations in the inverse ratio of their strength, consequently in such a way that

the strongest (the

one which most actively and successfully resists arrest) has the least,

and the weakest the most, of it to bear. It may thus come to pass that a

representation is entirely driven out of consciousness by two stronger

ones, while it is impossible for this to happen to it from a single one,

no matter how superior it be. The simplest case of all is when two equally

strong representations are present, in which case each is reduced to

the half of its original intensity. The sum of that which remains in

consciousness is always equal to the greatest representation.

[Footnote 1: By their mutual pressure representations are transformed into

a mere \_tendency\_ to represent, which again becomes actual representation

when the arrest ceases. The parts of a representation transformed into a

tendency, and the residua remaining unobscured, are not pieces cut off,

but the quantity denotes merely a degree of obscuration in the whole

representation, or rather in the representation which actually takes place.]

As soon as a representation reaches the zero point of consciousness, or as

soon as a new representation (sensation) comes in, the others begin at

once to rise or sink. The Mechanics seeks to investigate the laws of these

movements of representations; but we may the more readily pass over its

complicated calculations since their precise formulas can never more than

very roughly represent the true state of the case, which simply rebels

against precision. The rock on which every immanent use

of mathematics

in psychology must strike, is the impossibility of exactly measuring one

representation by another. We may, indeed, declare one stronger than

another on the basis of the immediate impression of feeling, but we cannot

say how much stronger it is, nor with reason assert that it is twice or

half as intense. Herbart's mathematical psychology was wrecked by this

insurmountable difficulty. The demand for exactness which it raised, but

which it was unable to satisfy with the means at its disposal, has recently

been renewed, and has led to assured results in psychophysics, which works

on a different basis and with ingenious methods of measurement.

Herbart endeavors, as we have seen, to deduce the various mental activities

from the play of representations, Feeling and desire are not something

beside representations, are not special faculties of the soul, but results

of the relations of representations, changing states of representations

arrested and working upward against hindrances. A representation which has

been forced out of consciousness persists as a \_tendency or effort\_ to

represent, and as such exerts a pressure on the conscious representations.

If a representation is suspended between counteracting forces a feeling

results; desire is the rise of a representation in the face of hindrances,

aversion is hesitation in sinking. If the effort is accompanied by the idea

that its goal is attainable, it is termed will. The character of a man

depends on the fact that definite masses of representations have

become dominant, and by their strength and persistence

hold opposing

representations in check or suppress them. The longer the dominant mass of

representations exercises its power, the firmer becomes the habit of acting

in a certain way, the more fixed the will. Herbart's intellectualistic

denial of self-dependence to the practical capacities of the soul leads him

logically to determinism. Volition depends on insight, is determined by

representations; freedom signifies nothing but the fact that the will

can be determined by motives. If the individual decisions of man were

undetermined he would have no character; if the character were free in the

choice between two actions, then, along with the noblest resolve, there

would remain the possibility of an opposite decision; freedom of choice

would make pure chance the doer of our deeds.

Pedagogics, above all,

must reject the idea of an undetermined freedom; education, along with

imputation, correction, and punishment, would be a meaningless word, if no

determining influence on the will of the pupil were possible. -- This last

objection overlooks the fact that the pedagogical influence is always

mediate, and can do no more than, by disciplining the impulses of the pupil

and by supplying him with aids against immoral inclinations, to lighten his

moral task. We can work on the motives only, never directly on the will

itself. Otherwise it would be inexplicable that even the best pedagogical

skill proves powerless in the case of many individuals.

Herbart's psychology was preceded by a philosophy of nature, which

construes matter from attraction and repulsion, and declares an \_actio in

distans\_ impossible. The intermediate link between physics and psychology

is formed by the science of organic life (physiology or biology); and

with this natural theology is connected by the following principles: The

purposiveness which we notice with admiration in men and the higher animals

compels us, since it can neither come from chance nor be explained on

natural grounds alone, to assume as its author a supreme artificer,

an intelligence which works by ends. It is true, indeed, that the existence

of the Deity is not demonstrated by the teleological argument; this is only

an hypothesis, but one as highly probable as the assumption that the human

bodies by which we are surrounded are inhabited by human souls--a fact

which we can only assume, not perceive nor prove. The assurance of faith

is different from that of logic and experience, but not inferior to it.

Religion is based on humility and grateful reverence, which is favored, not

injured, by the immeasurable sublimity of its object, the incompleteness of

our idea of the Supreme Being, and the knowledge of our ignorance. If faith

rests, on the one hand, on the teleological view of nature, it is, on the

other, connected with moral need, and exercises, in addition, aesthetic

influences. By comforting the suffering, setting right the erring,

reclaiming and pacifying the sinner, warning, strengthening, and

encouraging the morally sound, religion brings the spirit into a new and

better land, shows it a higher order of things, the order of providence,

which, amid all the mistakes of men, still furthers the good. The religious

spirit always includes an ethical element, and the bond

of the Church holds

men together even where the state is destroyed.

Indispensable theoretically

as a supplement to our knowledge, and practically because of the moral

imperfection of men, who need it to humble, warn, comfort, and lift them

up, religion is, nevertheless, in its origin independent of knowledge

and moral will. Faith is older than science and morals: the doctrine of

religion did not wait for astronomy and cosmology, nor the erection of

temples for ethics. Before the development of the moral concepts religion

already existed in the form of wonder without a special object, of a gloomy

awe which ascribed every sudden inner excitement to the impulse of an

invisible power. Since a speculative knowledge of the nature of God is

impossible, the only task which remains for metaphysics is the removal of

improper determinations from that which tradition and phantasy have to

say on the subject. We are to conceive God as personal, extramundane, and

omnipotent, as the creator, not of the reals themselves, but of their

purposive coexistence (\_Zusammen\_). In order, however, to rise from the

idea of the original, most real, and most powerful being to that of the

most excellent being we need the practical Ideas, without which the former

would remain an indifferent theoretical concept. Man can pray only to a

wise, holy, perfect, just, and good God.

This, in essential outline, is the content of the scattered observations

on the philosophy of religion given by Herbart. Drobisch (\_Fundamental

Doctrines of the Philosophy of Religion\_, 1840), from the standpoint of

religious criticism and with a renewal of the moral argument, and Taute

(1840-52) and Flügel ( $\_$ Miracles and the Possibility of a Knowledge of God $\_$ ,

1869) with an apologetic tendency and one toward a belief in miracles,

have, among others, endeavored to make up for the lack of a detailed

treatment of this discipline by Herbart--from which, moreover, much of

value could hardly have been expected in view of the jejuneness of his

metaphysical conceptions and the insufficiency of his appreciation of evil.

It remains only to glance at Herbart's Aesthetics. The beautiful is

distinguished from the agreeable and the desirable, which, like it, are the

objects of preference and rejection, by the facts, first, that it arouses

an involuntary and disinterested judgment of approval; and second, that it

is a predicate which is ascribed to the object or is objective. To these is

added, thirdly, that while desire seeks for that which is to come, taste

possesses in the present that which it judges.

That which pleases or displeases is always the form, never the matter;

and further, is always a relation, for that which is entirely simple is

indifferent. As in music we have succeeded in discovering the simplest

relations, which please immediately and absolutely--we know not why--so

this must be attempted in all branches of the theory of art. The most

important among them, that which treats of moral beauty, moral philosophy,

has therefore to inquire concerning the simplest relations of will, which

call forth moral approval or disapproval (independently of the interest

of the spectator), to inquire concerning the practical Ideas or

pattern-concepts, in accordance with which moral taste, involuntarily and

with unconditional evidence, judges concerning the worth or unworth of

(actually happening or merely represented) volitions. Herbart enumerates

five such primary Ideas or fundamental judgments of conscience.

(1) The Idea of inner freedom compares the will with the judgment, the

conviction, the conscience of the agent himself. The agreement of his

desire with his own judgment, with the precept of his taste, pleases, lack

of agreement displeases. Since the power to determine the will according

to one's own insight of itself establishes only an empty consistency and

loyalty to conviction, and may also subserve immoral craft, the first Idea

waits for its content from the four following.

(2) The Idea of perfection has reference to the quantitative relations

of the manifold strivings of a subject, in intensity, extension, and

concentration. The strong is pleasing in contrast with the weak, the

greater (more extended, richer) in contrast with the smaller, the collected

in contrast with the scattered; in other words, in the individual

desires it is energy which pleases, in their sum variety, in the system

co-operation. While the first two Ideas have compared the will of the

individual man with itself, the remaining ones consider its relation to the

will of other rational beings, the third to a merely represented will, and

the last two to an actual one.

- (3) According to the Idea of benevolence or goodness, which gives the most immediate and definite criterion of the worth of the disposition, the will pleases if it is in harmony with the (represented) will of another, \_i.e.\_, makes the satisfaction of the latter its aim.
- (4) The Idea of right is based on the fact that strife displeases. If several wills come together at one point without ill-will (in claiming a thing), the parties ought to submit themselves to right as a rule for the avoidance of strife.
- (5) In retribution and equity, also, the original element is displeasure, displeasure in an unrequited act as a disturbance of equilibrium. This last Idea demands that no deed of good or evil remain unanswered; that in reward, thanks, and punishment, a quantum of good and evil equal to that of which he has been the cause return upon the agent. The one-sided deed of good or ill is a disturbance, the removal of which demands a corresponding requital.

Herbart warns us against the attempt to derive the five original Ideas (which scientific analysis alone separates, for in life we always judge according to all of them together) from a single higher Idea, maintaining that the demand for a common principle of morals is a prejudice. From the union of several beings into one person proceed five other pattern-concepts, the derived or social Ideas of the ethical institutions in which the primary Ideas are realized. These correspond to the primary Ideas in the reverse order: The system of rewards, which

regulates

punishment; the legal society, which hinders strife; the system of

administration, aimed at the greatest possible good of all; the system

of culture, aimed at the development of the greatest possible power and

virtuosity; finally, as the highest, and that which unites the others in

itself, society as a person, which, when it is provided with the necessary power, is termed the state.

If we combine the totality of the original Ideas into the unity of the

person the concept of virtue arises. If we reflect on the limitations which

oppose the full realization of the ideal of virtue, we gain the concepts of

law and duty. An ethics, like that of Kant, which exclusively emphasizes

the imperative or obligatory character of the good, is one-sided; it

considers morality only in arrest, a mistake which goes with its false

doctrine of freedom. On the other hand, it was a great merit in Kant

that he first made clear the unconditional validity of moral judgment,

independent of all eudemonism. Politics and pedagogics are branches of the

theory of virtue. The end of education is development in virtue, and, as

a means to this, the arousing of varied interests and the production of a stable character.

In conclusion, we may sum up the points in which Herbart shows himself

a follower of Kant--he calls himself a "Kantian of the year 1828." His

practical philosophy takes from Kant its independence of theoretical

philosophy, the disinterested character of aesthetic judgment, the

absoluteness of ethical values, the non-empirical origin of the moral

concepts: "The fundamental ethical relations are not drawn from

experience." His metaphysics owes to Kant the critical treatment of the

experience-concepts (its task is to make experience comprehensible), in

which the leading idea in the Kantian doctrine of the antinomies, the

inevitableness of contradictions, is generalized, extended to all the

fundamental concepts of experience, and, as it were, transferred from the

Dialectic to the Analytic; it owes to him, further, the conception of being

as absolute position, and, finally, the dualism of phenomena and things

in themselves. Herbart (with Schopenhauer) considers the renewal of the

Platonic distinction between seeming and being the chief service of the

great critical philosopher, and finds his greatest mistake in the  $\_\mathtt{a}$ 

priori\_ character ascribed to the forms of cognition. In the doctrine of

the pure intuitions and the categories, and the Critique of Judgment, he

rejects, and with full consciousness, just those parts of Kant on which the

Fichtean school had built further. Finally, Herbart's method of thought,

his impersonality, the at times anxious caution of his inquiry, and the

neatness of his conceptions, are somewhat akin to Kant's, only that he

lacked the gift of combination to a much greater degree than his great

predecessor on the Königsberg rostrum. His remarkable acuteness is busier

in loosening than in binding; it is more happy in the discovery of

contradictions than in their resolution. Therefore he does not belong to

the kings who have decided the fate of philosophy for

long periods of time; he stands to one side, though it is true he is the most important figure among these who occupy such a position. The first to give his adherence to Herbart in essential positions, and so to furnish occasion for the formation of an Herbartian school, was Drobisch (born 1802), in two critiques which appeared in 1828 and 1830. Besides Drobisch, from whom we have valuable discussions of Logic (1836, 5th ed., 1887) and Empirical Psychology (1842), and an interesting essay on Moral Statistics and the Freedom of the Will (1867), L. Strümpell (born 1812; The Principal Points in Herbart's Metaphysics Critically Examined , 1840), is a professor in Leipsic. The organ of the school, the Zeitschrift für exakte Philosophie , now edited by Flügel (the first volume, 1860, contained a survey of the literature of the school), was at first issued by T. Ziller, the pedagogical thinker, and Allihn. The Zeitschrift für Völkerpsychologie und Sprachwissenschaft , from 1859, edited by M. Lazarus (born 1824; The Life of the Soul, 3 vols., 1856 seq ., 3d ed., 1883 seq .) and H. Steinthal (born 1823; The Origin of Language , 4th ed., 1888; Sketch of the Science of Language, part i. 2d ed., 1881; General Ethics , 1885) of Berlin, also belongs to the Herbartian movement. Distinguished service has been done in psychology by Nahlowsky ( The Life of Feeling\_, 1862, 2d. ed., 1884), Theodor Waitz in Marburg (1821-84; Foundation of Psychology , 1846; Text-book of Psychology\_, 1849), and Volkmann in Prague (1822-77; Text-book of Psychology, 3d. ed., by

Cornelius, 1884 and 1885); while Friedrich Exner (died 1853) was formerly

much spoken of as an opponent of the Hegelian psychology (1843-44). Robert

Zimmermann in Vienna (born 1824) represents an extreme formalistic tendency

in aesthetics (\_History of Aesthetics\_, 1858; \_General Esthetics as Science

of Form\_, 1865; further, a series of thorough essays on subjects in the

history of philosophy). Among historians of philosophy Thilo has given a

rather one-sided representation of the Herbartian standpoint. The school's

philosophers of religion have been mentioned above (p. 532). Beneke, whom

we have joined with Fries on account of his anthropological standpoint,

stands about midway between Herbart and Schopenhauer. He shares in the

former's interest in psychology, in the latter's foundation of metaphysical

knowledge on inner experience, and in the dislike felt by both for Hegel;

while, on the other hand, he differs from Herbart in his empirical method,

and from Schopenhauer in the priority ascribed to representation over effort.

## %3. Pessimism: Schopenhauer.%

Schopenhauer is in all respects the antipodes of Herbart. If in Herbart

philosophy breaks up into a number of distinct special inquiries,

Schopenhauer has but one fundamental thought to communicate, in the

carrying out of which, as he is convinced, each part implies the whole and

is implied by the whole. The former operates with sober concepts where the

latter follows the lead of gifted intuition. The one is cool, thorough,

cautious, methodical to the point of pedantry; the other is passionate,

ingenious, unmethodical to the point of capricious dilettantism. In the one

case, philosophy is as far as possible exact science, in which the person

of the thinker entirely retires behind the substance of the inquiry; in the

other, philosophy consists in a sum of artistic conceptions, which derive

their content and value chiefly from the individuality of the author. The

history of philosophy has no other system to show which to the same

degree expresses and reflects the personality of the philosopher as

Schopenhauer's. This personality, notwithstanding its limitations and its

whims, was important enough to give interest to Schopenhauer's views, even

apart from the relative truth which they contain.

Arthur Schopenhauer (1788-1860) was the son of a merchant in Dantzic and

his wife Johanna, \_née\_ Trosiener, who subsequently became known as a

novelist. His early training was gained from foreign travel, but after the

death of his father he exchanged the mercantile career, which he had begun

at his father's request, for that of a scholar, studying under G.E. Schulze

in Göttingen, and under Fichte at Berlin. In 1813 he gained his doctor's

degree in Jena with a dissertation \_On the Fourfold Root of the Principle

of Sufficient Reason\_. Then he moved from Weimar, the residence of his

mother, where he had associated considerably with Goethe and had been

introduced to Indian philosophy by Fr. Mayer, to Dresden (1814-18). In the

latter place he wrote the essay \_On Sight and Colors\_ (1816; subsequently

published by the author in Latin), and his chief work,

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The World as Will
and Idea (1819; new edition, with a second volume,
1844). After the
completion of the latter he began his first Italian
journey, while his
second tour fell in the interval between his two quite
unsuccessful
attempts (in Berlin 1820 and 1825) to propagate his
philosophy from the
professor's desk. From 1831 until his death he lived in
learned retirement
in Frankfort-on-the-Main. Here he composed the opuscule
On Will in
Nature , 1836, the prize treatises On the Freedom of
the Human Will and
On the Foundation of Ethics (together, The Two
Fundamental Problems
of Ethics , 1841), and the collection of minor treatises
Parerga and
Paralipomena , 2 vols., 1851 (including an essay "On
Religion").
J. Frauenstädt has published a considerable amount of
posthumous material
(among other things the translation, B. Gracians
Handorakel der
Weltklugheit ); the Collected Works (6 vols., 1873-74,
2d ed., 1877, with
a biographical notice); Lichtstrahlen aus Schopenhauers
Werken , 1861, 5th
ed. 1885; and a Schopenhauer Lexicon , 2 vols.,
1871.[1]
[Footnote 1: From the remaining Schopenhauer literature
(F. Laban has
published a chronological survey of it, 1880) we may
call attention to the
critiques of the first edition of the chief work by
Herbart and Beneke, and
that of the second edition by Fortlage ( Jenaische
Litteratur Zeitung,
1845, Nos. 146-151); J.E. Erdmann Herbart und
Schopenhauer, eine Antithese
(Zeitschrift für Philosophie_, 1851); Wilh. Gwinner,
Schopenhauers
Leben , 1878 (the second edition of Schopenhauer aus
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persönlichem
Umgang dargestellt , 1862); Fr. Nietzsche, Schopenhauer
als Erzieher
(Unzeitgemässe Betrachtungen, Stück iii ., 1874); O.
Busch, A.
Schopenhauer , 2d. ed., 1878; K. Peters, Schopenhauer
als Philosoph und
Schriftsteller , 1880; R. Koeber, Die Philosophie A.
Schopenhauers_, 1888.
[The English reader may be referred to Haldane and
Kemp's translation of
The World as Will and Idea , 3 vols., 1883-86; the
translation of The
Fourfold Root and the Will in Nature in Bohn's
Philosophical Library,
1889; Saunders's translations from the Parerga and
Paralipomena , 1889
seq .; Helen Zimmern's Arthur Schopenhauer, his Life
and his Philosophy,
1876; W. Wallace's _Schopenhauer_, Great Writers Series,
1890 (with a
bibliography by Anderson, including references to
numerous magazine
articles, etc.); Sully's Pessimism, 2d ed., 1882,
chap. iv.; and Royce's
Spirit of Modern Philosophy , chap, viii., 1892.--TR.]]
In regard to subjective idealism Schopenhauer confesses
himself a
thoroughgoing Kantian. That sensations are merely states
in us has long
been known; Kant opened the eyes of the world to the
fact that the forms of
knowledge are also the property of the subject. I know
things only as they
appear to me, as I represent them in virtue of the
constitution of my
intellect; the world is my idea. The Kantian theory,
however, is capable of
simplification, the various forms of cognition may be
reduced to a single
one, to the category of causality or principle of
sufficient reason--which
was preferred by Kant himself--as the general expression
of the regular
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connection of our representations. This principle, in
correspondence with
the several classes of objects, or rather of
representations--viz., pure
(merely formal) intuitions, empirical (complete)
intuitions, acts of will,
abstract concepts -- has four forms: it is the principium
rationis essendi,
rationis fiendi, rationis agendi, rationis cognoscendi.
The ratio
essendi is the law which regulates the coexistence of
the parts of space
and the succession of the divisions of time. The ratio
fiendi demands for
every change of state another from which it regularly
follows as from its
cause, and a substance as its unchangeable substratum--
matter. All changes
take place necessarily, all that is real is material;
the law of causality
is valid for phenomena alone, not beyond them, and holds
only for the
states of substances, not for substances themselves. In
inorganic nature
causes work mechanically, in organic nature as stimuli
(in which the
reaction is not equal to the action), and in animated
nature as motives.
A motive is a conscious (but not therefore a free)
cause; the law of
motivation is the ratio agendi. This serial order,
"mechanical cause,
stimulus, and motive," denotes only distinctions in the
mode of action, not
in the necessity of action. Man's actions follow as
inevitably from his
character and the motives which influence him as a clock
strikes the hours;
the freedom of the will is a chimera. Finally, the
ratio cognoscendi
determines that a judgment must have a sufficient ground
in order to be
true. Judgment or the connection of concepts is the
chief activity of the
reason, which, as the faculty of abstract thought and
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the organ of science,

constitutes the difference between man and the brute, while the possession

of the understanding with its intuition of objects is common to both. In

opposition to the customary overestimation of this gift of mediate

representations, of language, and of reflection, Schopenhauer gives

prominence to the fact that the reason is not a creative faculty like the

understanding, but only a receptive power, that it clarifies and transforms

the content furnished by intuition without increasing it by new

representations.

Objective cognition is confined within the circle of our representations;

all that is knowable is phenomenon. Space, time, and causality spread out

like a triple veil between us and the \_per se\_ of things, and prevent a

vision of the true nature of the world. There is one point, however, at

which we know more than mere phenomena, where of these three disturbing

media only one, time-form, separates us from the thing in itself. This

point is the consciousness of ourselves.

On the one hand, I appear to myself as body. My body is a temporal,

spatial, material object, an object like all others, and with them subject

to the laws of objectivity. But besides this objective cognition, I have,

further, an immediate consciousness of myself, through which I apprehend

my true being--I know myself as willing. My will is more than a mere

representation, it is the original element in me, the truly real which

appears to me as body. The will is related to the intellect as the primary

to the secondary, as substance to accident; it is related to the body

as the inner to the outer, as reality to phenomenon. The act of will is

followed at once and inevitably by the movement of the body willed, nay,

the two are one and the same, only given in different ways: will is the

body seen from within, body the will seen from without, the will become

visible, objectified. After the analogy of ourselves, again, who appear to

ourselves as material objects but in truth are will, all existence is to

be judged. The universe is the \_mac-anthropos\_; the knowledge of our own

essence, the key to the knowledge of the essence of the world. Like our

body, the whole world is the visibility of will. The human will is the

highest stage in the development of the same principle which manifests its

activity in the various forces of nature, and which properly takes its name

from the highest species. To penetrate further into the inner nature of

things than this is impossible. What that which presents itself as will

and which still remains after the negation of the latter (see below) is in

itself, is for us absolutely unknowable.

The world is \_per se\_ will. None of the predicates are to be attributed to

the primal will which we ascribe to things in consequence of our subjective

forms of thought--neither determination by causes or ends, nor plurality:

it stands outside the law of causality, as also outside space and time,

which form the \_principium individuationis\_. The primal will is groundless,

blind stress, unconscious impulse toward existence; it is one, the one

and all, [Greek: en nai pan]. That which manifests

itself as gravity, as

magnetic force, as the impulse to growth, as the \_vis
medicatrix naturae\_,

is only this one world-will, whose unity (not conscious character!) shows

itself in the purposiveness of its embodiments. The essence of each thing,

its hidden quality, at which empirical explanation finds its limit, is its

will: the essence of the stone is its will to fall; that of the lungs is

the will to breathe; teeth, throat, and bowels are hunger objectified.

Those qualities in which the universal will gives itself material

manifestation form a series with grades of increasing perfection, a realm

of unchangeable specific forms or eternal Ideas, which (with a real value

difficult to determine) stand midway between the one primal will and

the numberless individual beings. That the organic individual does not

perfectly correspond to the ideal of its species, but only approximates

this more or less closely, is grounded in the fact that the stadia in the

objectification of the will, or the Ideas, contend, as it were, for matter;

and whatever of force is used up in the victory of the higher Ideas over

the lower is lost for the development of the examples of the former. The

higher the level on which a being stands the clearer the expression of its

individuality. The most general forces of nature, which constitute the raw

mass, play the fundamental bass in the world-symphony, the higher stages

of inorganic nature, with the vegetable and animal worlds, the harmonious

middle parts, and man the guiding treble, the significant melody. With the

human brain the world as idea is given at a stroke; in this organ the will

has kindled a torch in order to throw light upon itself and to carry out

its designs with careful deliberation; it has brought forth the intellect

as its instrument, which, with the great majority of men, remains in a

position of subservience to the will. Brain and thought are the same; the

former is nothing other than the will to know, as the stomach is will

to digest. Those only talk of an immaterial soul who import into

philosophy--where such ideas do not belong--concepts taught them when they were confirmed.

Schopenhauer's philosophy is as rich in inconsistencies as his personality

was self-willed and unharmonious. "He carries into his system all the

contradictions and whims of his capricious nature," says Zeller. From the

most radical idealism (the objective world a product of representation) he

makes a sharp transition to the crassest materialism (thought a function of

the brain); first matter is to be a mere idea, now thought is to be merely

a material phenomenon! The third and fourth books of The World as Will and

Idea\_, which develop the aesthetic and ethical standpoint of their author,

stand in as sharp a contradiction to the first (poëtical) and the second

(metaphysical) books as these to each other. While at first it was

maintained that all representation is subject to the principle of

sufficient reason, we are now told that, besides causal cognition, there is

a higher knowledge, one which is free from the control of this principle,

viz., aesthetic and philosophical intuition. If, before, it was said that

the intellect is the creature and servant of the will,

we now learn that in

favored individuals it gains the power to throw off the yoke of slavery,

and not only to raise itself to the blessedness of contemplation free from

all desire, but even to enter on a victorious conflict with the tyrant,

to slay the will. The source of this power--is not revealed. R. Haym (A.

Schopenhauer\_, 1864, reprinted from the \_Preussische Jahrbücher ) was not

far wrong in characterizing Schopenhauer's philosophy as a clever novel,

which entertains the reader by its rapid vicissitudes.

The contemplation which is free from causality and will is the essence of

aesthetic life; the partial and total sublation, the quieting and negation

of the will, that of ethical life. It is but seldom, and only in the

artistic and philosophical genius, that the intellect succeeds in freeing

itself from the supremacy of the will, and, laying aside the question of

the \_why\_ and \_wherefore\_, \_where\_ and \_when\_, in sinking itself completely

in the pure \_what\_ of things. While with the majority of mankind, as with

animals, the intellect always remains a prisoner in the service of the will

to live, of self-preservation, of personal interests, in gifted men,

in artists and thinkers, it strips off all that is individual, and, in

disinterested vision of the Ideas, becomes pure, timeless subject, freed

from the will. Art removes individuality from the subject as well as from

the object; its comforting and cheering influence depends on the fact that

it elevates those enjoying it to the stand-point--raised above all pain

of desire--of a fixed, calm, completely objective contemplation of the

unchangeable essence, of the eternal types of things. For aesthetic

intuition the object is not a thing under relations of space, time, and

cause, but only an expression, an exemplification, a representative of

the Idea. Poetry, which presents--most perfectly in tragedy--the Idea of

humanity, stands higher than the plastic arts. The highest rank, however,

belongs to music, since it does not, like the other arts, represent single

Ideas, but--as an unconscious metaphysic, nay, a second,
ideal world above

the material world--the will itself. In view of this high appreciation

of their art, it is not surprising that musicians have contributed a

considerable contingent to the band of Schopenhauer worshipers. A different

source of attraction for the wider circle of readers was supplied by the

piquant spice of pessimism.

If the purposiveness of the phenomena of nature points to the unity of the

primal will, the unspeakable misery of life, which Schopenhauer sets forth

with no less of eloquence, proves the blindness and irrationality of the

world-ground. To live is to suffer; the world contains incomparably more

pain than pleasure; it is the worst possible world. In the world of

sub-animal nature aimless striving; in the animal world an insatiable

impulse after enjoyment--while the will, deceiving itself with fancied

happiness to come, which always remains denied it, and continually

tossed to and fro between necessity and \_ennui\_, never attains complete

satisfaction. The pleasure which it pursues is nothing but the removal of

a dissatisfaction, and vanishes at once when the longing

is stilled, to

be replaced by fresh wants, that is, by new pains. In view of the

indescribable misery in the world, to favor optimism is evidence not so

much of folly and blindness as of a wanton disposition. The old saying is

true: Non-existence is better than existence. The misery, however, is the

just punishment for the original sin of the individual, which gave itself

its particular existence by an act of intelligible freedom. Redemption from

the sin and misery of existence is possible only through a second act

of transcendental freedom, which, since it consists in the complete

transformation of our being, and since it is supernatural in its origin,

the Church is right in describing as a new birth and work of grace.

Morality presupposes pessimistic insight into the badness of the world and

the fruitlessness of all desire, and pantheistic discernment of the untruth

of individual existence and the identity in essence of all individuals

from a metaphysical standpoint. Man is able to free himself from egoistic

self-affirmation only when he perceives the two truths, that all striving

is vain and the longed-for pleasure unattainable, and that all individuals

are at bottom one, viz. manifestations of the same primal will. This is

temporarily effected in sympathy, which, as the only counterpoise to

natural selfishness, is the true moral motive and the source of all love

and justice. The sympathizer sees himself in others and feels their

suffering as his own. The entire negation of the will, however, inspiring

examples of which have been furnished by the Christian

ascetics and

Oriental penitents, stands higher than the vulgar virtue of sympathy with

the sufferings of others. Here knowledge, turned away from the individual

and vain to the whole and genuine, ceases to be a motive for the will and

becomes a means of stilling it; the intellect is transformed from a motive

into a quietive, and brings him who gives himself up to the All safely

out from the storm of the passions into the peace of deliverance from

existence. Absence of will, resignation, is holiness and blessedness in

one. For him who has slain the will in himself the motley deceptive dream

of phenomena has vanished, he lives in the ether of true reality, which for

our knowledge is an empty nothingness ("Nirvana"), yet (as the ultimate,

incomprehensible \_per se\_, which remains after the
annulling of the will)

only a relative nothingness -- relative to the phenomenon.

Schopenhauer disposes of the sense of responsibility and the reproofs of

conscience, which are inconvenient facts for his determinism, by making

them both refer, not to single deeds and the empirical character, but to

the indivisible act of the intelligible character. Conscience does not

blame me because I have acted as I must act with my character and the

motives given, but for being what in these actions I reveal myself to be.

\_Operari sequitur esse\_. My action follows from my being, my being was my

own free choice, and a new act of freedom is alone capable of transforming it.

If Schopenhauer is fond of referring to the agreement of his views with the

oldest and most perfect religions, the idea lies in the background that

religion, -- which springs from the same metaphysical needs as philosophy,

and, for the great multitude, who lack the leisure and the capacity for

philosophical thought, takes the place of the former, -- as the metaphysics

of the people, clothes the same fundamental truths which the philosopher

offers in conceptual form and supports by rational grounds in the garb of

myth and allegory, and places them under the protection of an external

authority. When this character of religion is overlooked, and that which

is intended to be symbolical is taken for literal truth (it is not

the supernaturalists alone who start with this unjust demand, but the

rationalists also, with their minimizing

interpretations), it becomes the

worst enemy of true philosophy. In Christianity the doctrines of original

sin and of redemption are especially congenial to our philosopher, as well

as mysticism and asceticism. He declares Mohammedanism the worst religion

on account of its optimism and abstract theism, and Buddhism the best,

because it is idealistic, pessimistic, and--atheistic.

It was not until after the appearance of the second edition of his

chief work that Schopenhauer experienced in increasing measure the

satisfaction--which his impatient ambition had expected
much earlier--of

seeing his philosophy seriously considered. A zealous apostle arose for

him in Julius Frauenstädt (died 1878; \_Letters on the Philosophy of

Schopenhauer\_, 1854; \_New Letters on the Philosophy of Schopenhauer ,

1876), who, originally an Hegelian, endeavored to remove

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pessimism from the
master's system. Like Eduard von Hartmann, who will be
discussed below,
Julius Bahnsen (died 1882; The Contradiction in the
Knowledge and Being
of the World, the Principle and Particular Verification
of Real-Dialectic,
1880-81; also, interesting characterological studies)
seeks to combine
elements from Schopenhauer and Hegel, while K. Peters
( Will-world and
World-will , 1883) shows in another direction points of
contact with the
first named thinker. Of the younger members of the
school we may name P.
Deussen in Kiel ( The Elements of Metaphysics , 2d ed.,
1890), and Philipp
Mainländer (Philosophy of Redemption, 2d ed., 1879).
As we have mentioned
above, Schopenhauer's doctrines have exercised an
attractive force in
artistic circles also. Richard Wagner (1813-83;
Collected Writings , 9
vols., 1871-73, vol. x. 1883; 2d ed., 1887-88), whose
earlier aesthetic
writings ( The Art-work of the Future , 1850; Opera and
Drama , 1851) had
shown the influence of Feuerbach, in his later works
( Beethoven , 1870;
Religion and Art , in the third volume of the
Bayreuther Blätter , 1880)
became an adherent of Schopenhauer, after, in the Ring
of the Nibelung ,
he had given poetical expression to a view of the world
nearly allied to
Schopenhauer's, though this was previous to his
acquaintance with the works
of the latter.[1] One of the most thoughtful disciples
of the Frankfort
philosopher and the Bayreuth dramatist is Fried rich
Nietzsche (born 1844).
His Unseasonable Reflections , 1873-76,[2] is a summons
to return from the
errors of modern culture, which, corrupted by the
seekers for gain, by the
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state, by the polite writers and savants, especially by
the professors
of philosophy, has made men cowardly and false instead
of simple and
honorable, mere self-satisfied "philistines of culture."
In his writings
since 1878[3] Nietzsche has exchanged the rôle of a
German Rousseau for
that of a follower of Voltaire, to arrive finally at the
ideal of the man
above men.[4]
[Footnote 1: Cf. on Wagner, Fr. v. Hausegger, Wagner
und Schopenhauer ,
1878. [English translation of Wagner's Prose Works by
Ellis, vol. i.,
1892.--TR.]]
[Footnote 2: "D. Strauss, the Confessor and the Author";
"On the Advantage
and Disadvantage of History for Life"; "Schopenhauer as
an Educator"; "R.
Wagner in Bayreuth."]
[Footnote 3: Human, All-too-human, new ed., 1886; The
Dawn, Thoughts on
Human Prejudices , 1881; The Merry Science , 1882; So
spake Zarathustra ,
1883-84; Beyond Good and Evil , 1886; On the Genealogy
of Morals , 1887,
2d ed., 1887; The Wagner Affair , 1888, 2d ed., 1892;
Götzendämmerung, or
How to Philosophize with the Hammer , 1889.]
[Footnote 4: Cf. H. Kaatz, Die Weltanschauung Fr.
Nietzsches, I. Kultur
und Moral , 1892.]
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CHAPTER XV.

PHILOSOPHY OUT OF GERMANY.

The Cartesian philosophy, which had been widely accepted in Italy, and had

still been advocated, in the sense of Malebranche, by Sigismond Gerdil

(1718-1802), was opposed as an unhistorical view of the world by

Giambattista Vico,[1] the bold and profound creator of the philosophy of

history (1668-1744; from 1697 professor of rhetoric in the University

of Naples). Vico's leading ideas are as follows: Man makes himself the

criterion of the universe, judges that which is unknown and remote by the

known and present. The free will of the individual rests on the judgments,

manners, and habits of the people, which have arisen without reflection

from a universal human instinct. Uniform ideas among nations unacquainted

with one another are motived in a common truth. History is the development

of human nature; in it neither chance nor fate rules, but the legislative

power of providence, in virtue of which men through their own freedom

progressively realize the idea of human nature. The universal course of

civilization is that culture transfers its abode from the forests and huts

into villages, cities, and, finally, into academies; the nature of the

nations is at first rude, then stern, gradually it becomes mild, nay,

effeminate, and finally wanton; at first men feel only that which is

necessary, later they regard the useful, the convenient, the agreeable

and attractive, until the luxury sprung from the sense for the beautiful

degenerates into a foolish misuse of things. Vico divides antiquity into

three periods: the divine (theocracy), the heroic

(aristocracy), and the

human (democracy and monarchy). The same course of things repeats itself in

the nations of later times: to the patriarchal dominion of the fanciful,

myth-making Orient correspond the spiritual states of the migrations; to

the old Greek aristocracy, the chivalry and robbery of the period of the

Crusades; to the republicanism and the monarchy of later antiquity, the

modern period, which gives even the citizens and peasants a share in the

universal equality. If European culture had not been transplanted to

America, the same three-act drama of human development would there be

playing. Vico carries this threefold division into his consideration of

manners, laws, languages, character, etc.

[Footnote 1: Vico: \_Principles of a New Science of the Common Nature of

Nations\_, 1725; \_Works\_, in six volumes, edited by G. Ferrari, 1835-37,

new ed.. 1853 \_seq\_. On Vico cf. K. Werner, 1877 and 1879. [Also Flint's

\_Vico\_, Blackwood's Philosophical Classics, 1884.--TR.]]

If Vico anticipates the Hegelian view of history, Antonio Genovesi

(1712-69), who also taught at the University of Naples, and while the

former was still living, shows himself animated by a presentiment of the

Kantian criticism.[1] Appreciating Leibnitz and Locke, and appropriating

the idea of the monads from the one and the unknowableness of substance

from the other, he reaches the conviction--according to statements in his

letters--that sense-bodies are nothing but the appearances of intelligible

unities; that each being for us is an activity, whose substratum and

ground remains unknown to us; that self-consciousness and the knowledge

of external impressions yield phenomena alone, through the elaboration of

which we produce the intellectual worlds of the sciences. For the rest,

Genovesi thus advises his friends: Study the world, devote yourselves to

languages and to mathematics, think more about men than about the things

above us, and leave metaphysical vagaries to the monks! His countrymen

honor in him the man who first included ethics and politics in

philosophical instruction, and who used the Italian language both from the

desk and in his writings, holding that a nation whose scientific works are

not composed in its own tongue is barbarian.

[Footnote 1: In the following account we have made use of a translation of

the concluding section of Francesco Florentine's \_Handbook of the History

of Philosophy\_, 1879-81, which was most kindly placed at our disposal by

Dr. J. Mainzer. Cf. \_La Filosofia Contemporanea in Italia , 1876, by the

same author; further, Bonatelli, \_Die Philosophic in Italien seit\_, 1815;

\_Zeitschrift für Philosophic und philosophische Kritik\_, vol. liv. 1869, p.

134 \_seq.\_; and especially, K. Werner, \_Die Italienische Philosophic des

XIX. Jahrhunderts\_, 5 vols., 1884-86. [The English reader may be referred to

the appendix on Italian philosophy in vol. ii. of the English translation

of Ueberweg, by Vincenzo Botta; and to Barzellotti's "Philosophy in Italy,"

\_Mind\_, vol. in. 1878.--TR.]]

The sensationalism of Condillac, starting from Parma, gained influence over Melchiore Gioja (1767-1828; Statistical Logic, 1803;

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Ideology , 1822)
and Giandomenico Romagnosi (1761-1835; What is the
Sound Mind? 1827), but
not without experiencing essential modification from
both. The importance
of these men, moreover, lies more in the sphere of
social philosophy than
in the sphere of noëtics.
Of the three greatest Italian philosophers of this
century, Galluppi,
Rosmini, and Gioberti, the first named is more in
sympathy with the Kantian
position than he himself will confess. Pasquale
Galluppi[1] (1770-1846;
from 1831 professor at Naples) adheres to the principle
of experience, but
does not conceive experience as that which is sensuously
given, but as
the elaboration of this through the synthetic relations
(rapporti) of
identity and difference, which proceed from the activity
of the mind.
Vincenzo de Grazia ( Essay on the Reality of Human
Knowledge_, 1839-42),
who holds all relations to be objective, and Ottavio
Colecchi (died 1847;
Philosophical Investigations , 1843), who holds them
all subjective.
oppose the view of Galluppi that some are objective and
others subjective.
According to De Grazia judgment is observation, not
connection; it finds
out the relations contained in the data of sensation; it
discovers, but
does not produce them. Colecchi reduces the Kantian
categories to two,
substance and cause. Testa, Borelli (1824), and, among
the younger men,
Cantoni, are Kantians; Labriola is an Herbartian.
[Footnote 1: Galluppi: Philosophical Essay on the
Critique of Knowledge_,
1819 seq.; Lectures on Logic and Metaphysics , 1832
seq.; Philosophy
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of the Will , 1832 seq.; On the System of Fichte, or
Considerations on
Transcendental Idealism and Absolute Rationalism , 1841.
By the Letters
on the History of Philosophy from Descartes to Kant ,
1827, in the later
editions to Cousin, he became the founder of this
discipline in his native
land.
Antonio Rosmini-Serbati[1] (born 1797 at Rovereto, died
1855 at Stresa)
regards knowledge as the common product of sensibility
and understanding,
the former furnishing the matter, the latter the form.
The form is one: the
Idea of being which precedes all judgment, which does
not come from myself,
which is innate, and apprehensible by immediate inner
perception (essere
ideale, ente universale) . The pure concepts (substance,
cause, unity,
necessity) arise when the reflecting reason analyzes
this general Idea
of being; the mixed Ideas (space, time, motion; body,
spirit), when the
understanding applies it to sensuous experience. The
universal Idea of
being and the particular existences are in their being
identical, but in
their mode of existence different. In his posthumous
 Theosophy ,
1859 seq ., Rosmini no longer makes the universal being
receive its
determinations from without, but produce them from its
own inner nature
by means of an a priori development. Vincenzo
Gioberti[1] (born 1801 in
Turin, died 1852 at Paris) has been compared as a
patriot with Fichte, and
in his cast of thought with Spinoza. In place of
Rosmini's "psychologism,"
which was advanced by Descartes and which leads to
skepticism, he seeks to
substitute "ontologism," which is alone held capable of
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reconciling science and the Catholic religion. By immediate intuition (the content of which Gioberti comprehends in the formula "Being creates the existences") we cognize the absolute as the creative ground of two series, the series of thought and the series of reality. The endeavors of Rosmini and Gioberti to bring the reason into harmony with the faith of the Church were fiercely attacked by Giussepe Ferrari (1811-76) and Ausonio Franchi (1853), while Francesco Bonatelli (Thought and Cognition , 1864) and Terenzio Mamiani (1800-85; Confessions of a Metaphysician , 1865), follow a line of thought akin to the Platonizing views of the first named thinkers. The review Filosofia delle Scuole Italiane , called into life by Mamiani in 1870, has been continued since 1886 under the direction of L. Ferri as the Rivista Italiana di Filosofia . [Footnote 1: Rosmini: New Essay on the Origin of Ideas , 1830 (English translation, 1883-84); Principles of Moral Science, 1831; Philosophy of Right , 1841.] [Footnote B: Gioberti: Introduction to the Study of Philosophy, 1840; Philosophical Errors of A. Rosmini, 1842; On the Beautiful , 1841; On the Good , 1842; Protology edited by Massari, 1857. On both cf. R. Seydel, \_Zeitschrift für Philosophie\_, 1859. The Thomistic doctrine has many adherents in Italy, among whom the Jesuit M. Liberatore (1865) may be mentioned. The Hegelian philosophy has also found favor there (especially in Naples), as well as positivism. The former is favored by Vera, Mariano, Ragnisco, and Spaventa

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(died 1885); the
Rivista di Filosofia Scientifica , 1881 seq ., founded
by Morselli,
supports the latter, and E. Caporali's La Nuova
Scienza , 1884, moves in
a similar direction. Pietro Siciliani (On the Revival
of the Positive
Philosophy in Italy_, 1871) makes the third, the
critical, period of
philosophy by which scholasticism is overthrown and the
reason made
authoritative, commence with Vico, and bases his
doctrine on Vico's
formula: The conversion (transposition) of the verum
and the factum,
and vice versa . Subsequently he inclined to
positivism, which he had
previously opposed, and among the representatives of
which we may mention,
further, R. Ardigò of Pavia _(Psychology as Positive
Science , 1870; The
Ethics of Positivism , 1885; Philosophical Works , 1883
seq .), and
Andrea Angiulli of Naples (died 1890; Philosophy and
the Schools , 1889),
who explain matter and spirit as two phenomena of the
same essence;
further, Giuseppe Sergi, Giovanni Cesca, and the
psychiatrist, C. Lombroso,
the head of the positivistic school of penal law.
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## %2. France.%

Among the French philosophers of this century[1] none can compare in far-reaching influence, both at home and abroad, with Auguste Comte,[2] the creator of positivism (born at Montpellier in 1798, died at Paris in 1857), whose chief work, the \_Course of Positive Philosophy\_, 6 vols., appeared in 1830 42. [English version, "freely translated and condensed," by Harriet Martineau, 1853.]

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[Footnote 1: Accounts of French philosophy in the
nineteenth century have
been given by Taine (1857, 3d ed., 1867); Janet _(La
Philosophie Française
Contemporaine , 2d ed., 1879); A. Franck; Ferraz (3
vols., 1880-89); Felix
Ravaisson (2d ed., 1884); the Swede, J. Borelius
(Glances at the Present
Position of Philosophy in Germany and France , German
translation by Jonas,
1887); [and Ribot, _Mind_, vol. ii., 1877].]
[Footnote 2: On Comte cf. B. Pünjer, Jahrbücher für
protestantische
Theologie , 1878; R. Eucken, Zur Würdigung Comtes und
des Positivismus,
in the Aufsätze zum Zellerjubiläum , 1887; Maxim.
Brütt, Der
Positivismus_, Programme of the _Realgymnasium des
Johanneums , Hamburg,
1889; [also, besides Mill, p. 560, John Morley,
Encyclopedia Britannica,
vol. vi. pp. 229-238, and E. Caird, The Social
Philosophy and Religion of
Comte , 1885.--Tr.]]
The positive philosophy seeks to put an end to the hoary
error that
anything more is open to our knowledge than given facts-
-phenomena and
their relations. We do not know the essence of
phenomena, and just
as little their first causes and ultimate ends; we know-
-by means of
observation, experiment, and comparison--only the
constant relations
between phenomena, the relations of succession and of
similarity among
facts, the uniformities of which we call their laws. All
knowledge is,
therefore, relative; there is no absolute knowledge, for
the inmost essence
of facts, and likewise their origin, the way in which
they are produced,
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is for us impenetrable. We know only, and this by experience, that the

phenomenon A is invariably connected with the phenomenon B, that the

second always follows on the first, and call the constant antecedent of a

phenomenon its cause. We know such causes only as are themselves phenomena.

The fact that our knowledge is limited to the succession and coexistence of

phenomena is not to be lamented as a defect: the only knowledge which is

attainable by us is at the same time the only useful knowledge, that which

lends us practical power over phenomena. When we inquire into causes we

desire to hasten or hinder the effect, or to change it as we wish, or at

least to anticipate it in order to make our preparations accordingly. Such

foresight and control of events can be attained only through a knowledge

of their laws, their order of succession, their phenomenal causes. \_Savoir

pour prévoir\_. But, although the prevision of facts is the only knowledge

which we need, men have always sought after another, an "absolute"

knowledge, or have even believed that they were in possession of it; the

forerunners of the positive philosophy themselves, Bacon and Descartes,

have been entangled in this prejudice. A long intellectual development was

required to reach the truth, that our knowledge does not extend beyond

the cognition of the succession and coexistence of facts; that the same

procedure must be extended to abstract speculation which the common mind

itself makes use of in its single actions. On the other hand, the positive

philosophy, notwithstanding its rejection of metaphysics, is far from

giving its sanction to empiricism. Every isolated,

empirical observation

is useless and uncertain; it obtains value and usefulness only when it is

defined and explained by a theory, and combined with other observations

into a law--this makes the difference between the observations of the scholar and the layman.

The positive stage of a science, which begins when we learn to explain

phenomena by their laws, is preceded by two others: a theological stage,

which ascribes phenomena to supposed personal powers, and a metaphysical

stage, which ascribes them to abstract natural forces. These three periods

denote the childhood, the youth, and the manhood of science.

The earliest view of the world is the theological view, which derives the

events of the world from the voluntary acts of supernatural intelligent

beings. The crude view of nature sees in each individual thing a being

animated like man; later man accustoms himself to think of a whole class

of objects as governed by one invisible being, by a divinity; finally

the multitude of divinities gives place to a single God, who creates,

maintains, and rules the universe, and by extraordinary acts, by miracles,

interferes in the course of events. Thus fetichism (in its highest form,

astrolatry), polytheism, and monotheism are the stages in the development

of the theological mode of thought. In the second, the metaphysical,

period, the acts of divine volition are replaced by entities, by abstract

concepts, which are regarded as realities, as the true reality back of

phenomena. A force, a power, an occult property or

essence is made to dwell

in things; the mysterious being which directs events is no longer called

God, but "Nature," and invested with certain inclinations, with a horror

of a vacuum, an aversion to breaks, a tendency toward the best, a \_vis

medicatrix\_, etc. Here belong, also, the vegetative soul
of Aristotle, the

vital force and the plastic impulse of modern investigators. Finally the

positive stage is reached, when all such abstractions, which are even yet

conceived as half personal and acting voluntarily, are abandoned, and

the unalterable and universally valid laws of phenomena established by

observation and experiment alone. But to explain the laws of nature

themselves transcends, according to Comte, the fixed limits of human

knowledge. The beginning of the world lies outside the region of the

knowable, atheism is no better grounded than the theistic hypothesis, and

if Comte asserts that a blindly acting mechanism is less probable than a

world-plan, he is conscious that he is expressing a mere conjecture which

can never be raised to the rank of a scientific theory. The origin and the

end of things are insoluble problems, in answering which no progress has

yet been made in spite of man's long thought about them. Only that which

lies intermediate between the two inscrutable termini of the world is an

object of knowledge.

It is not only the human mind in general that exhibits this advance from

the theological, through the metaphysical, to the positive mode of thought,

but each separate science goes through the same three periods--only that

the various disciplines have developed with unequal rapidity. While some

have already culminated in the positive method of treatment, others yet

remain caught in the theological period of beginnings, and others still are

in the metaphysical transition stage. Up to the present all three phases

of development exist side by side, and even among the objects of the most

highly developed sciences there are some which we continue to regard

theologically; these are the ones which we do not yet understand how to

calculate, as the changes of the weather or the spread of epidemics. Which

science first attained the positive state, and in what order have the

others followed? With this criterion Comte constructs his classification

of the sciences\_, in which, however, he takes account only of those

sciences which he calls abstract, that is, those which treat of "events" in

distinction from "objects." The abstract sciences (as biology) investigate

the most general laws of nature, valid for all phenomena, from which the

particular phenomena which experience presents to us cannot be deduced, but

on the basis of which an entirely different world were also possible. The

concrete sciences, on the other hand (\_e.g.\_, botany and zoölogy), have to

do with the actually given combinations of phenomena. The former follow out

each separate one of the general laws through all its possible modes of

operation, the latter consider only the combination of laws given in an

object. Thus oaks and squirrels are the result of very many laws, inasmuch

as organisms are dependent not only on biological, but also on physical,

chemical, and mathematical laws.

Comte enumerates six of these abstract sciences, and arranges them in such

a way that each depends on the truths of the preceding, and adds to these

its own special truths, while the first (the most general and simplest)

presupposes no earlier laws whatever, but is presupposed by all the

later ones. According to this principle of increasing particularity and

complexity the following scale results: (i) Mathematics, in which the

science of number, as being absolutely without presuppositions, precedes

geometry and mechanics; (2) Astronomy; (3) Physics (with five subordinate

divisions, in which the first place belongs to the theory of weight, and

the last to electrology, while the theory of heat, acoustics, and optics

are intermediate); (4) Chemistry; (5) Biology or physiology; (6) Sociology

or the science of society. This sequence, which is determined by the

increasing complexity and increasing dependence of the objects of the

sciences, is the order in which they have historically developed--before

the special laws of the more complicated sciences can be ascertained, the

general laws of the more simple ones must be accurately known. It is also

advisable to follow this same order of increasing complexity and difficulty

in the study of the sciences, for acquaintance with the methods of those

which are elementary is the best preparation for the pursuit of the higher

ones. In arithmetic and geometry we study positivity at its source; in the

sociological spirit it finds its completion.

Mathematics entered on its positive stage at quite an early period,

chemistry and biology only in recent times, while, in the highest and most

complicated science, the metaphysical (negative, liberal, democratic,

revolutionary) mode of thought is still battling with the feudalism of the

theological mode. To make sociology positive is the mission of the second

half of Comte's work, and to this goal his philosophical activity had been

directed from the beginning. Comte rates the efforts of political economy

very low, with the exception of the work of Adam Smith, and will not let

them pass as a preparation for scientific sociology, holding that they are

based on false abstractions. Psychology, which is absent from the above

enumeration, is to form a branch of biology, and exclusively to use the

objective method, especially phrenology (to the three faculties of the

soul, "heart, character, and intellect," correspond three regions of the

brain). Self-observation, so Comte, making an impossibility out of a

difficulty, teaches, can at most inform us concerning our feelings and

passions, and not at all concerning our own thinking, since reflection

brings to a stop the process to which it attends, and thus destroys its

object. The sole source of knowledge is external senseperception. In his

\_Positive Polity\_ Comte subsequently added a seventh fundamental science, ethics or anthropology.

Sociology,[1] the elevation of which to the rank of a positive science is

the principal aim of our philosopher, uses the same method as the natural

sciences, namely, the interrogation and interpretation of experience by

means of induction and deduction, only that here the

usual relation of

these two instruments of knowledge is reversed. Between inorganic and

organic philosophy, both of which proceed from the known to the unknown,

there is this difference, that in the former the advance is from the

elements, as that which alone is directly accessible, to the whole which is

composed of them, while in the latter the opposite is the case, since here

the whole is better known than the individual parts of which it consists.

Hence, in inorganic science the laws of the composite phenomena are

obtained by deduction (from the laws of the simple facts inductively

discovered) and confirmed by observation; in sociology, on the other

hand, the laws are found through (historical) experience, and deductively

verified (from the nature of man as established by biology) only in the

sequel. Since the phenomena of society are determined not merely by the

general laws of human nature, but, above all, by the growing influence of

the past, historical studies must form the basis of sociological inquiry.

[Footnote 1: Cf. Krohn: \_Beiträge zur Kenntniss und Würdigung der

Soziologie, Jahrbücher für Nationalökonomie und Statistik\_, New Series,

vols. i. and iii., 1880 and 1881.]

Of the two parts of sociology, the Statics, which investigates the

equilibrium (the conditions of the existence, the permanence, and the

coexistence of social states), and Dynamics, which investigates the

movement (the laws of the progress) of social phenomena, the first was in

essence established by Aristotle. The fundamental

concept of the Statics

is the \_consensus\_, the harmony, solidarity, or mutual dependence of the

members of the social organism. All its parts, science, art, religion,

politics, industry, must be considered together; they stand in such

intimate harmony and correlation that, for every important change of

condition in one of these parts, we may be certain of finding

corresponding changes in all the others, as its causes and effects.

Besides the selfish propensities, there dwell in man an equally original,

but intrinsically weaker, impulse toward association, which instinctively

leads him to seek the society of his fellows without reflection on the

advantages to be expected therefrom, and a moderate degree of

benevolence. As altruism conflicts with egoism, so the reason, together

with the impulse to get ahead, which can only be satisfied through

labor, is in continual conflict with the inborn disinclination to regulated

activity (especially to mental effort). The character of society depends on

the strength of the nobler incentives, that is, the social inclinations and

intellectual vivacity in opposition to the egoistic impulses and natural

inertness. The former nourish the progressive, the latter the conservative

spirit. Women are as much superior to men in the stronger development of

their sympathy and sociability as they are inferior in insight and reason.

Society is a group of families, not of individuals, and domestic life is

the foundation, preparation, and pattern for social life, Comte praises the

family, the connecting link between the individual and the species, as a

school of unselfishness, and approves the strictness of the Catholic Church

in regard to the indissolubility of the marriage relation. He remarks the

evil consequences of the constantly increasing division of labor, which

makes man egoistic and narrow-minded, since it hides rather than reveals

the social significance of the employment of the individual and its

connection with the welfare of the community, and seeks for a means of

checking them. Besides the universal education of youth, he demands

the establishment of a spiritual power to bring the general interest

continually to the minds of the members of all classes and avocations, to

direct education, and to enjoy the same authority in moral and intellectual

matters as is conceded to the astronomer in the affairs of his department.

The function of this power would be to occupy the position heretofore held

by the clergy. Comte conceives it as composed of positive philosophers,

entirely independent of the secular authorities, but in return cut off from

political influence and from wealth. Secular authority, on the other hand,

he wishes put into the hands of an aristocracy of capitalists, with the

bankers at the head of these governing leaders of industry.

The Dynamics, the science of the temporal succession of social phenomena,

makes use of the principle of development. The progress of society,

which is to be regarded as a great individual, consists in the growing

predominance of the higher, human activities over the lower and animal. The

humanity in us, it is true, will never attain complete ascendency over the

animality, but we can approach nearer and nearer to the ideal, and it is

our duty to aid in this march of civilization. Although the law of progress

holds good for all sides of mental life, for art, politics, and morals,

as well as for science, nevertheless the most important factor in the

evolution of the human race is the development of the intellect as the

guiding power in us (though not in itself the strongest). Awakened first by

the lower wants, the intellect assumes in increasing measure the guidance

of human operations, and gives a determinate direction to the feelings. The

passions divide men, and, without the guidance of the speculative faculty,

would mutually cripple one another; that which alone unites them into

a collection force is a common belief, an idea. Ideas are related to

feeling--to quote a comparison from John Stuart Mill's valuable treatise

\_Auguste Comte and Positivism\_, 3d ed., 1882, a work of which we have made

considerable use--as the steersman who directs the ship is to the steam

which drives it forward. Thus the history of humanity has been determined

by the history of man's intellectual convictions, and this in turn by the

three familiar stages in the theory of the universe. With the development

from the theological to the positive mode of thought is most intimately

connected, further, the transition from the military to the industrial

mode of life. As the religious spirit prepares the way for the scientific

spirit, so without the dominion of the military spirit industry could not

have been developed. It was only in the school of war that the earliest

societies could learn order; slavery was beneficial in

that through it

labor was imposed upon the greater part of mankind in spite of their

aversion to it. The political preponderance of the legists corresponds to

the intermediate, metaphysical stage. The sociological law (discovered by

Comte in the year 1822) harmonizes also with the customary division which

separates the ancient from the modern world by the Middle Ages.

In his philosophy of history Comte gives the further application of these

principles. Here he has won commendation even from his opponents for a

sense of justice which merits respect and for his comprehensive view. The

outlooks and proposals for the future here interspersed were in later

writings[1] worked out into a comprehensive theory of
the regeneration

of society; the extravagant character of which has given occasion to his

critics to make a complete division between the second, "subjective or

sentimental," period of his thinking, in which the philosopher is said to

be transformed into the high priest of a new religion, and the first, the

positivistic period, although the major part of the qualities pointed out

as characteristic of the former are only

intensifications of some which may

be shown to have been present in the latter. Beneath the surface of the

most sober inquiry mystical and dictatorial tendencies pulsate in Comte

from the beginning, and science was for him simply a means to human

happiness. But now he no longer demands the independent pursuit of science

in order to the attainment of this end, but only the believing acceptance

of its results. The intellect is to be placed under the

dominion of the

heart, and only such use made of it as promises a direct advantage for

humanity; the determination of what problems are most important at a given

time belongs to the priesthood. The systematic unity or harmony of the

mind demands this dominion of the feelings over thought. The religion of  $% \left( 1\right) =\left( 1\right) \left( 1\right)$ 

positivism, which has "love for its principle, order for its basis, and

progress for its end," is a religion without God, and without any other

immortality than a continuance of existence in the grateful memory of

posterity. The dogmas of the positivist religion are scientific principles.

Its public \_cultus\_ with nine sacraments and a large number of annual

festivals, is paid to the \_Grand Être\_ "Humanity" (which is not omnipotent,

but, on account of its composite character, most dependent, yet infinitely

superior to any of its parts); and, besides this, space, the earth, the

universe, and great men of the past are objects of reverence. Private

devotion consists in the adoration of living or dead women as our guardian

angels. The \_ethics\_ of the future declares the good of others to be the

sole moral motive to action (altruism). Comte's last work, the  $\_$ Philosophy

of Mathematics\_, 1856, indulges in a most remarkable numerical mysticism.

The historical influence exercised by Comte through his later writings is

extremely small in comparison with that of his chief work. Besides

Blignières and Robinet, E. Littré, the well-known author of the

\_Dictionnaire de la Langue Française\_ (1863 \_seq\_.) who was the most

eminent of Comte's disciples and the editor of his Collected Works (1867

seq .), has written on the life and work of the master. Comte's school divided into two groups -- the apostates, with Littré (1801-81) at their head, who reject the subjective phase and hold fast to the earlier doctrine, and the faithful, who until 1877, when a new division between strict and liberal Comteans took place within this group, gathered about P. Laffitte (born 1823).[2] The leader of the English positivists is Frederic Harrison (born 1831). Positivistic societies exist also in Sweden, Brazil, Chili, and elsewhere. Positivism has been developed in an independent spirit by J.S. Mill and Herbert Spencer. [Footnote 1: Positivist Catechism , 1852 [English translation by Congreve, 1858, 2d ed., 1883]; System of Positive Polity , 4 vols., 1851-54 [English translation, 1875-77]. Cf. Pünjer, A. Comtes "Religion der Menschheit " in the Jahrbücher für protestantische Theologie , 1882.] [Footnote 2: On this division cf. E. Caro, M. Littré et le Positivisme , 1883, and Herm. Gruber (S.J.), Der Positivismus vom Tode Comtes bis auf unsere Tage , 1891.] The following brief remarks on the course of French philosophy may also be added. Against the sensationalism of Condillac as continued by Cabanis, Destutt de Tracy (see above, pp. 259-260), and various physiologists, a twofold reaction asserted itself. One manifestation of this proceeded from the theological school , represented by the "traditionalists" Victor de Bonald (1818), Joseph de Maistre (1753-1821; St. Petersburg Soirées , 1821), and F. de Lamennais (1782-1854), who, however,

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after his break with
the Church ( Words of a Believer , 1834) developed in
his Sketch of a
Philosophy , 1841 seq ., an ontological system after
Italian and German
models. The other came from the spiritualistic school,
at whose head
stood Maine de Biran[1] (1766-1824; On the Foundations
of Psychology; his
Works have been edited by Cousin, 1841, Naville, 1859,
and Bertrand) and
Royer Collard (1763-1845). Their pupil Victor Cousin
(1792-1867; Works,
1846-50), who admired Hegel also, became the head of the
eclectic school .
Cousin will neither deny metaphysics with the Scotch,
nor construe
metaphysics a priori with the Germans, but with
Descartes bases it on
psychology. For a time an idealist of the Hegelian type
(infinite and
finite, God and the world, are mutually inseparable; the
Ideas reveal
themselves in history, in the nations, in great men), he
gradually sank
back to the position of common sense. His adherents,
among whom Théodore
Jouffroy (died 1842) was the most eminent, have done
special service in the
history of philosophy. From Cousin's school, which was
opposed by P. Leroux
and J. Reynaud, have come Ravaisson, Saisset, Jules
Simon, P. Janet (born
1823),[2] and E. Caro (born 1826; The Philosophy of
Goethe , 1866). Kant
has influenced Charles Renouvier (born 1817; Essays in
General Criticism ,
4 vols., 1854-64) and E. Vacherot (born 1809;
Metaphysics and Science ,
1858, 2d ed., 1863; Science and Consciousness , 1872).
[Footnote 1: Cf. E. König in Philosophische
Monatshefte , vol. xxv. 1889,
p.160 seq.]
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[Footnote 2: Janet: History of Political Science in its
Relations to
Morals , 1858, 3d ed., 1887; German Materialism of the
Present Day , 1864,
English translation by Masson, 1866: The Family , 1855;
The Philosophy of
Happiness, 1862; The Brain and Thought, 1867;
Elements of Morals ,
1869 [English translation by Corson, 1884]; The Theory
of Morals , 1874
[English translation by Mary Chapman, 1883]; Final
Causes , 1876 [English
translation by Affleck, with a preface by Flint, new
ed., 1883].]
Among other thinkers of reputation we may mention the
socialist Henri de
Saint-Simon (1760-1825; Selected Works , 1859), the
physiologist Claude
Bernard (1813-78), the positivist H. Taine (1828-93;
The Philosophy of
Art , English translation by Durand, 2d ed., 1873; On
Intelligence_, 1872,
English translation by Haye, 1871), E. Renan (1823-92;
The Life of
Jesus , 1863, English translation by Wilbour,
Philosophical Dialogues and
Fragments -- English, 1883), the writer on aesthetics and
ethics J.M. Guyau
( The Problems of Contemporary Aesthetics , 1884;
Sketch of an Ethic
without Obligation or Sanction , 1885; The Irreligion
of the Future ,
1887), Alfred Fouillée (The Future of Metaphysics
founded on Experience ,
1889; Morals, Art, and Religion according to Guyau,
1889; The
Evolutionism of the Idea-Forces , 1890), and the
psychologist Th. Ribot,[1]
editor of the Revue Philosophique (from 1876).
[Footnote 1: Ribot: Heredity , 2d ed., 1882 [English
translation, 1875];
 The Diseases of Memory , 1881 [English translation,
1882]; The Diseases
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of the Will\_, 1883 [English. 1884]; \_The Diseases of Personality\_, 1885 [English, 1887]; \_The Psychology of Attention\_, 1889 [English, 1890]; \_German Psychology of To-day\_, 2d ed., 1885 [English translation by Baldwin, 1886].]

## %3. Great Britain and America.%

Green.

Prominent among the British philosophers of the nineteenth century[1] are Hamilton, Bentham, J.S. Mill, and Spencer. Hamilton is the leading representative of the Scottish School; Bentham is known as the advocate of utilitarianism; Mill, an exponent of the traditional empiricism of English thinking, develops the theory of induction and the principle of utility; Spencer combines an agnostic doctrine of the absolute and thoroughgoing evolution in the phenomenal world into a comprehensive philosophical system.[2] In recent years there has been a reaction against empirical doctrines on the basis of neo-Kantian and neo-Hegelian principles. Foremost among the leaders of this movement we may mention T.H.

[Footnote 1: Cf. Harald Höffding, \_Einleitung in die englische Philosophie unserer Zeit\_ (Danish, 1874), German (with alterations and additions by the author) by H. Kurella, 1889; David Masson, \_Recent British Philosophy\_, 1865, 3d ed., 1877; Ribot, \_La Psychologie Anglaise Contemporaine\_, 1870, 2d ed., 1875 [English, 1874] Guyau, \_La Morale Anglaise Contemporaine\_, 1879 [Morris, \_British Thought and Thinkers\_, 1880; Porter, "On English and American Philosophy," Ueberweg's \_History\_, English

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translation, vol.
ii. pp. 348-460; O. Pfleiderer, Development of
Theology , 1890, book
iv.--TR.]]
[Footnote 2: Cf. on Mill and Spencer, Bernh. Pünjer,
Jahrbücher für
protestantische Theologie , 1878.]
The Scottish philosophy has been continued in the
nineteenth century by
James Mackintosh ( Dissertation on the Progress of
Ethical Philosophy_,
1830, 3d ed., 1863), and William Whewell ( History of
the Inductive
Sciences , 3d ed., 1857; Philosophy of the Inductive
Sciences , 1840, 3d
ed., 1858-60). Its most important representative is Sir
William Hamilton[1]
of Edinburgh (1788-1856), who, like Whewell, is
influenced by Kant.
Hamilton bases philosophy on the facts of consciousness,
but, in antithesis
to the associational psychology, emphasizes the mental
activity of
discrimination and judgment. Our knowledge is relative,
and relations its
only object. Consciousness can never transcend itself,
it is bound to
the antithesis of subject and object, and conceives the
existent under
relations of space and time. Hence the unconditioned is
inaccessible to
knowledge and attainable by faith alone. Among
Hamilton's followers belong
Mansel (_Metaphysics_, 3d. ed., 1875; _Limits of
Religions Thought , 5th
ed., 1870) and Veitch. The Scottish doctrine was
vigorously opposed by J.F.
Ferrier (1808-64; _Institutes of Metaphysics_, 2d ed.,
1856), who himself
developed an idealistic standpoint.
[Footnote 1: Hamilton: Discussions on Philosophy and
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Literature , 1852, 3d

ed., 1866; \_Lectures on Metaphysics\_, 2d ed., 1860, and on \_Logic\_, 2d ed., 1866, edited by his pupils, Mansel and Veitch; \_Reid's Works\_, with notes and dissertations, 1846, 7th ed., 1872. On Hamilton cf. Veitch, 1882, 1883 [Monck, 1881].]

In the United States the Scottish philosophy has exercised a wide influence. In recent times it has been strenuously advocated, chiefly in the spirit of Reid, by James McCosh (a native of Scotland, but since 1868 in America; \_The Intuitions of the Mind\_, 3d ed., 1872; \_The Laws of Discursive Thought\_, new ed., 1891; \_First and Fundamental Truths\_, 1889); while in Noah Porter (died 1892; \_The Human Intellect\_, new ed., 1876; \_The Elements of Moral Science\_, 1885) it appears modified by elements from German thinking.

Jeremy Bentham[1] (1748-1832) is noteworthy for his attempt to revive Epicureanism in modern form. Virtue is the surest means to pleasure, and pleasure the only self-evident good. Every man strives after happiness, but not every one in the right way. The honest man calculates correctly, the criminal falsely; hence a careful calculation of the value of the various pleasures, and a prudent use of the means to happiness, is the first condition of virtue; in this the easily attainable minor joys, whose summation amounts to a considerable quantum, must not be neglected. The value of a pleasure is measured by its intensity, duration, certainty, propinquity, fecundity in the production of further pleasure, purity or

freedom from admixture of consequent pain, and extent to

the greatest

possible number of persons. Every virtuous action results in a balance of

pleasure. Inflict no evil on thyself or others from which a balance of good

will not result. The end of morality is the "greatest happiness of the

greatest number," in the production of which each has first to care for

his own welfare: whoever injures himself more than he serves others acts

immorally, for he diminishes the sum of happiness in the world; the

interest of the individual coincides with the interest of society. The two

classes of virtues are prudence and benevolence. The latter is a natural,

though not a disinterested affection: happiness enjoyed with others is

greater than happiness enjoyed alone. Love is a pleasure-giving extension

of the individual; we serve others to be served by them.

[Footnote 1: Bentham: \_Introduction to the Principles of Morals and

Legislation\_, 1789; new ed., 1823, reprinted 1876; Deontology, 1834,

edited by Bowring, who also edited the \_Works\_, 1838-43. \_The Principles

of Civil and Criminal Legislation\_, edited in French from Bentham's

manuscripts by his pupil Etienne Dumont (1801, 2d ed., 1820; English by

Hildreth, 5th ed., 1887), was translated into German with notes by F.E. Beneke, 1830.

Associationalism has been reasserted by James Mill (1773-1836; Analysis of

the Phenomena of the Human Mind\_, 1829), whose influence lives on in the

work of his greater son. The latter, John Stuart Mill,[1] was born in

London 1806, and was from 1823 to 1858 a secretary in the India House;

after the death of his wife he lived (with the exception of two years of

service as a Member of Parliament) at Avignon; his death occurred in

1873. Mill's \_System of Logic\_ appeared in 1843, 9th ed., 1875; his

\_Utilitarianism\_, 1863, new ed., 1871; \_An Examination of Sir William

Hamilton's Philosophy\_, 1865, 5th ed., 1878; his notes to the new edition

of his father's work, \_Analysis of the Phenomena of the Human Mind\_, 2d

ed., 1878, also deserve notice. With the phenomenalism of Hume and the

(somewhat corrected) associational psychology of his father as a basis,

Mill makes experience the sole source of knowledge, rejecting \_a priori\_

and intuitive elements of every sort. Matter he defines as a "permanent

possibility of sensation"; mind is resolved into "a series of feelings with

a background of possibilities of feeling," even though the author is not

unaware of the difficulty involved in the question how a series of feelings

can be aware of itself as a series. Mathematical principles, like all

others, have an experiential origin--the peculiar certitude ascribed to

them by the Kantians is a fiction--and induction is the only fruitful

method of scientific inquiry (even in mental science). The syllogism is

itself a concealed induction.

[Footnote 1: Cf. on Mill. Taine, \_Le Positivisme Anglais , 1864 [English,

by Haye]; the objections of Jevons \_(Contemporary Review , December, 1877

\_seq\_., reprinted in \_Pure Logic and other Minor Works\_, 1890; cf. \_Mind\_,

vol. xvi. pp. 106-110) to Mill's doctrine of the inductive character of

geometry, his treatment of the relation of resemblance,

and his exposition of the four methods of experimental inquiry in their relation to the law of causation; and the finely conceived essay on utilitarianism, by C. Hebler, Philosophische Aufsätze, 1869, pp. 35-66. [Also Mill's own Autobiography , 1873: Bain's John Stuart Mill, a Criticism , 1882; and T.H. Green, Lectures on the Logic, Works , vol. ii.--TR.]] When I assert the major premise the inference proper is already made, and in the conclusion the comprehensive formula for a number of particular truths which was given in the premise is merely explicated, interpreted. Because universal judgments are for him merely brief expressions for aggregates of particular truths, Mill is able to say that all knowledge is generalization, and at the same time to argue that all inference is from particulars to particulars. Inference through a general proposition is not necessary, yet useful as a collateral security, inasmuch as the syllogistic forms enable us more easily to discover errors committed. The ground of induction, the uniformity of nature in reference both to the coexistence and the succession of phenomena, since it wholly depends on induction, is not unconditionally certain; but it may be accepted as very highly probable, until some instance of lawless action (in itself conceivable) shall have been actually proved. Like the law of causation, the principles of logic are also not \_a priori\_, but only the highest generalizations from

Mill's most brilliant achievement is his theory of

all previous experience.

experimental inquiry,

for which he advances four methods: (1) The Method of Agreement: "If two

or more instances of the phenomenon under investigation have only one

circumstance in common, the circumstance in which alone all the instances

agree is the cause (or effect) of the given phenomenon."
(2) The Method of

Difference: "If an instance in which the phenomenon under investigation

occurs, and an instance in which it does not occur, have every circumstance

in common save one, that one occurring only in the former; the circumstance

in which alone the two instances differ, is the effect, or the cause, or an

indispensable part of the cause, of the phenomenon," These two methods (the

method of observation, and the method of artificial experiment) may also be

employed in combination, and the Canon of the Joint Method of Agreement and

Difference runs: "If two or more instances in which the phenomenon occurs

have only one circumstance in common, while two or more instances in

which it does not occur have nothing in common save the absence of that

circumstance, the circumstance in which alone the two sets of instances

differ is the effect, or the cause, or an indispensable part of the

cause, of the phenomenon." (3) The Method of Residues: "Subduct from any

phenomenon such part as is known by previous inductions to be the effect of

certain antecedents, and the residue of the phenomenon is the effect of the

remaining antecedents." (4) The Method of Concomitant Variations: "Whatever

phenomenon varies in any manner whenever another phenomenon varies in some

particular manner, is either a cause or an effect of that phenomenon, or is

connected with it through some fact of causation." When the phenomena are

complex the deductive method must be called in to aid: from the inductively

ascertained laws of the action of single causes this deduces the laws

of their combined action; and, as a final step, the results of such

ratiocination are verified by the proof of their agreement with empirical

facts. To explain a phenomenon means to point out its cause; the

explanation of a law is its reduction to other, more general laws. In all

this, however, we remain within the sphere of phenomena; the essence of

nature always eludes our knowledge.

In the chapter "Of Liberty and Necessity" (book vi. chap, ii.) Mill

emphasizes the position that the necessity to which human actions are

subject must not be conceived, as is commonly done, as irresistible

compulsion, for it denotes nothing more than the uniform order of our

actions and the possibility of predicting them. This does not destroy

the element in the idea of freedom which is legitimate and practically

valuable: we have the power to alter our character; it
is formed \_by\_ us

as well as \_for\_ us; the desire to mould it is one of the most influential

circumstances in its formation. The principle of morality is the promotion

of the happiness of all sentient beings. Mill differs from Bentham,

however, from whom he derives the principle of utility, in several

important particulars--by his recognition of qualitative
as well as of

quantitative differences in pleasures, of the value of the ordinary rules

of morality as intermediate principles, of the social

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feelings, and of the
disinterested love of virtue. Opponents of the
utilitarian theory have
not been slow in availing themselves of the
opportunities for attack thus
afforded.[1] A third distinguished representative of the
same general
movement is Alexander Bain, the psychologist (born 1818;
 The Senses and
the Intellect_, 3d ed., 1868; _The Emotions and the
Will , 3d ed., 1875;
Mental and Moral Science , 1868, 3d ed., 1872, part
ii., 1872; Mind and
Body , 3d ed., 1874).
[Footnote 1: On the relation of Bentham and Mill cf.
Höffding, p. 68:
Sidgwick's Outlines , chap. iv. § 16; and John Grote's
Examination of the
Utilitarian Philosophy , 1870, chap. i.]
The system projected by Herbert Spencer (born 1820), the
major part of
which has already appeared, falls into five parts:
First Principles ,
1862, 7th ed., 1889; Principles of Biology, 1864-67,
4th ed., 1888;
Principles of Psychology , 1855, 5th ed., 1890;
Principles of Sociology
(vol. i. 1876, 3d ed., 1885; part iv. Ceremonial
Institutions , 1879, 3d
ed., 1888, part v. Political Institutions , 1882, 2d
ed., 1885, part vi.
Ecclesiastical Institutions , 1885, 2d ed., 1886,
together constituting
vol. ii.); Principles of Ethics (part i. The Data of
Ethics , 1879, 5th
ed., 1888; parts ii. and iii. _The Inductions of Ethics_
and The Ethics of
Individual Life , constituting with part i. the first
volume, 1892; part
iv. Justice , 1891). A comprehensive exposition of the
system has been
given, with the authority of the author, by F.H. Collins
in his Epitome of
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the Synthetic Philosophy\_, 1889.[1] The treatise on Education , 1861, 23d

ed., 1890, his sociological writings, and his various essays have also

contributed essentially to Mr. Spencer's fame, both at home and abroad. The

\_First Principles\_ begin with the "Unknowable." Since human opinions, no

matter how false they may seem, have sprung from actual experiences, and,

when they find wide acceptance and are tenaciously adhered to, must have

something in them which appeals to the minds of men, we must assume that

every error contains a kernel of truth, however small it be. No one of

opposing views is to be accepted as wholly true, and none rejected as

entirely false. To discover the incontrovertible fact which lies at their

basis, we must reject the various concrete elements in which they disagree,

and find for the remainder the abstract expression which holds true

throughout its divergent manifestations. No antagonism is older, wider,

more profound, and more important than that between religion and science.

Here too some most general truth, some ultimate fact must lie at the basis.

The ultimate religious ideas are self-contradictory and untenable. No

one of the possible hypotheses concerning the nature and origin of

things--every religion may be defined as an \_a priori\_ theory of the

universe, the accompanying ethical code being a later growth--is logically

defensible: whether the world is conceived atheistically as self-existent,

or pantheistically as self-created, or theistically (fetichism, polytheism,

or monotheism), as created by an external agency, we are everywhere

confronted by unthinkable conclusions. The idea of a

First Cause or of

the absolute (as Mansel, following Hamilton, has proved in his Limits

of Religious Thought\_) is full of contradictions. But however widely the

creeds diverge, they show entire unanimity, from the grossest superstition

up to the most developed theism, in the belief that the existence of the

world is a mystery which ever presses for interpretation, though it can

never be entirely explained. And in the progress of religion from crude

fetichism to the developed theology of our time, the truth, at first but

vaguely perceived, that there is an omnipresent Inscrutable which manifests

itself in all phenomena, ever comes more clearly into view.

[Footnote 1: Cf. also Fiske's \_Outlines of Cosmic Philosophy , 2 vols.,

1874. Numerous critiques and discussions of Spencer's views have been given

in various journals and reviews; among more extended works reference may be

made to Bowne, \_The Philösophy of Herbert Spencer\_, 1874; Malcolm Guthrie,

\_On Mr. Spencer's Formula of Evolution\_, 1879, and the same author, On Mr.

Spencer's Unification of Knowledge\_, 1882; and T.H. Green, on Spencer and

Lewes, \_Works\_, vol. i.--TR.]

Science meets this ultimate religious truth with the conviction, grasped

with increasing clearness as the development proceeds from Protagoras to

Kant, that the reality hidden behind all phenomena must always remain

unknown, that our knowledge can never be absolute. This principle maybe

established inductively from the incomprehensibility of the ultimate

scientific ideas, as well as deductively from the nature

of intelligence,

through an analysis of the product and the process of thought. (1) The

ideas space, time, matter, motion, and force, as also the first states of

consciousness, and the thinking substance, the ego as the unity of subject

and object, all represent realities whose nature and origin are entirely

incomprehensible. (2) The subsumption of particular facts under more

general facts leads ultimately to a most general, highest fact, which

cannot be reduced to a more general one, and hence cannot be explained or

comprehended. (3) All thought (as has been shown by Hamilton in his essay

"On the Philosophy of the Unconditioned," and by his follower Mansel)

is the establishment of relations, every thought involving relation,

difference, and (as Spencer adds) likeness. Hence the absolute, the idea

of which excludes every relation, is entirely beyond the reach of an

intelligence which is concerned with relations alone, and which always

consists in discrimination, limitation, and assimilation—it is trebly

unthinkable. Therefore: Religion and Science agree in the supreme truth

that the human understanding is capable of relative knowledge only or of a

knowledge of the relative (Relativity). Nevertheless, according to Spencer,

it is too much to conclude with the thinkers just mentioned, that the

idea of the absolute is a mere expression for inconceivability, and its

existence problematical. The nature of the absolute is unknowable, but

not the existence of a basis for the relative and phenomenal. The

considerations which speak in favor of the relativity of knowledge and its

limitation to phenomena, argue also the existence of a non-relative, whose

phenomenon the relative is; the idea of the relative and the phenomenal

posits \_eo ipso\_ the existence of the absolute as its correlative, which

manifests itself in phenomena. We have at least an indefinite, though not

a definite, consciousness of the Unknowable as the Unknown Cause, the

Universal Power, and on this is founded our ineradicable belief in

objective reality.

All knowledge is limited to the relative, and consists in increasing

generalization: the apex of this pyramid is formed by philosophy. Common

knowledge is un-unified knowledge; science is partially unified knowledge;

philosophy, which combines the highest generalizations of the sciences into

a supreme one, is completely unified knowledge. The data of philosophy

are--besides an Unknowable Power--the existence of knowable likenesses and

differences among its manifestations, and a resulting segregation of the

manifestations into those of subject and object.

Further, derivative data

are space (relations of coexistence), time (relations of irreversible

sequence), matter (coexistent positions that offer resistance), motion

(which involves space, time, and matter), and force, the ultimate of

ultimates, on which all others depend, and from our primordial experiences

of which all the other modes of consciousness are derivable. Similarly the

ultimate primary truth is the \_persistence of force\_, from which, besides

the indestructibility of matter and the continuity of (actual or potential)

motion, still further truths may be deduced: the

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persistence of relations
among forces or the uniformity of law, the
transformation and equivalence
of (mental and social as well as of physical) forces,
the law of the
direction of motion (along the line of least resistance,
or the line of
greatest traction, or their resultant), and the
unceasing rhythm of
motion. Beyond these analytic truths, however,
philosophy demands a law of
universal synthesis. This must be the law of the
continuous redistribution
of matter and motion, for each single thing, and the
whole universe
as well, is involved in a (continuously repeated) double
process of
evolution and dissolution, the former consisting in
the integration of
matter[1] and the dissipation of motion, the latter in
the absorption of
motion and the disintegration of matter. The law of
evolution, in its
complete development, then runs: "Evolution is an
integration of matter and
concomitant dissipation of motion; during which the
matter passes from an
indefinite, incoherent homogeneity to a definite,
coherent heterogeneity;
and during which the retained motion undergoes a
parallel transformation."
This is inductively supported by illustrations from
every region of nature
and all departments of mental and social life; and,
further, shown
deducible from the ultimate principle of the persistence
of force, through
the mediation of several corollaries to it, viz., the
instability of the
homogeneous under the varied incidence of surrounding
forces, the
multiplication of effects by action and reaction, and
segregation. Finally
the principle of equilibration indicates the impassable
limit at which
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evolution passes over into dissolution, until the eternal round is again

begun. If it may be said of Hegel himself, that he vainly endeavored to

master the concrete fullness of reality with formal concepts, the criticism

is applicable to Spencer in still greater measure. The barren schemata of

concentration, passage into heterogeneity, adaptation, etc., which are

taken from natural science, and which are insufficient even in their own

field, prove entirely impotent for the mastery of the complex and peculiar phenomena of spiritual life.

[Footnote 1: Organic growth is the concentration of elements before

diffused; cf. the union of nomadic families into settled tribes.

Armed with these principles, however, Mr. Spencer advances to the

discussion of the several divisions of "Special Philosophy." Passing over

inorganic nature, he finds his task in the interpretation of the phenomena

of life, mind, and society in terms of matter, motion, and force under the

general evolution formula. This procedure, however, must not be understood

as in any wise materialistic. Such an interpretation would be a

misrepresentation, it is urged, for the strict relativity of the standpoint

limits all conclusions to phenomena, and permits no inference concerning

the nature of the "Unknowable." The \_Principles of Biology take up the

phenomena of life. Life is defined as the "continuous adjustment of

internal relations to external relations." No attempt is made to explain

its origin, yet (in the words of Mr. Sully) it is clear that the lowest

forms of life are regarded as continuous in their essential nature with

sub-vital processes. The evolution of living organisms, from the lowest to

the highest, with the development of all their parts and functions, results

from the co-operation of various factors, external and internal, whose

action is ultimately reducible to the universal law.

The field of \_psychology\_ is intimately allied with biology, and yet

istinguished from it. Mental life is a subdivision of life in general, and

may be subsumed under the general definition; but while biological truths

concern the connection between internal phenomena, with but tacit or

occasional recognition of the environment, psychology has to do neither

with the internal connection nor the external connection, but "the

connection between these two connections." Psychology in its subjective

aspect, again, is a field entirely \_sui generis\_. The substance of mind,

conceived as the underlying substratum of mental states, is unknowable; but

the character of those states of which mind, as we know it, is composed,

is a legitimate subject of inquiry. If this be carefully investigated, it

seems highly probable that the ultimate unit of consciousness is something

"of the same order as that which we call a nervous shock." Mind is

proximately composed of feelings and the relations between feelings;

from these, revived, associated, and integrated, the whole fabric of

consciousness is built up. There is, then, no sharp distinction between the

several phases of mind. If we trace its development objectively, in terms

of the correspondence between inner and outer phenomena,

we find a gradual

progress from the less to the more complex, from the lower to the higher,

without a break. Reflex action, instinct, memory, reason, are simply

stages in the process. All is dependent on experience. Even the forms of

knowledge, which are \_a priori\_ to the individual, are the product

of experience in the race, integrated and transmitted by heredity, and

become organic in the nervous structure. In general the correspondence of

inner and outer in which mental life consists is mediated by the nervous

organism. The structure and functions of this condition consciousness and

furnish the basis for the interpretation of mental evolution in terms of

"evolution at large, regarded as a process of physical transformation."

Nevertheless mental phenomena and bodily phenomena are not identical,

consciousness is not motion. They are both phenomenal modes of the

unknowable, disparate in themselves, and giving no indication of the

ultimate nature of the absolute. Subjective analysis of human consciousness

yields further proof of the unity of mental composition. All mental action

is ultimately reducible to "the continuous

differentiation and integration

of states of consciousness." The criterion of truth is the inconceivability

of the negation. Tried by this test, as by all others, realism is superior

to idealism, though in that "transfigured" form which implies objective

existence without implying the possibility of any further knowledge

concerning it, -- hence in a form entirely congruous with the conclusion

reached by many other routes.

\_Sociology\_ deals with super-organic evolution, which involves the

co-ordinated actions of many individuals. To understand the social unit, we

must study primitive man, especially the ideas which he forms of himself,

of other beings, and of the surrounding world. The conception of a mind or

other-self is gradually evolved through observation of natural phenomena

which favor the notion of duality, especially the phenomena of sleep,

dreams, swoons, and death. Belief in the influence of these doubles of the

dead on the fortunes of the living leads to sorcery, prayer, and praise.

Ancestor-worship is the ultimate source of all forms of religion; to it

can be traced even such aberrant developments as fetichism and idolatry,

animal-, plant-, and nature-worship. Thus the primitive man feels himself

related not only to his living fellows, but to multitudes of supernatural

beings about him. The fear of the living becomes the root of the political,

and the fear of the dead the root of the religious, control. A society is

an organic entity. Though differing from an individual organism in many

ways, it yet resembles it in the permanent relations among its component

parts. The Domestic Relations, by which the maintenance of the species is

now secured, have come from various earlier and less developed forms; the

militant type of society is accompanied by a lower, the industrial type

by a higher stage of this development. Ceremonial observance is the most

primitive kind of government, and the kind from which the political and

religious governments have differentiated. Political organization is

necessary in order to co-operation for ends which

benefit the society

directly, and the individual only indirectly. The ultimate political force

is the feeling of the community, including as its largest part ancestral

feeling. Many facts combine to obscure this truth, but however much it may

be obscured, public feeling remains the primal source of authority. The

various forms and instruments of government have grown up through processes

in harmony with the general law. The two antithetical types of society are

the militant and the industrial—the former implies compulsory co-operation

under more or less despotic rule, with governmental assumption of functions

belonging to the individual and a minimizing of individual initiative:

in the latter, government is reduced to a minimum and best conducted by

representative agencies, public organizations are largely replaced by

private organizations, the individual is freer and looks less to the state

for protection and for aid. The fundamental conditions of the highest

social development is the cessation of war. The ideas and sentiments at the

basis of Ecclesiastical Institutions have been naturally derived from the

ghost-theory already described. The goal of religious development is the

final rejection of all anthropomorphic conceptions of the First Cause,

until the harmony of religion and science shall be reached in the

veneration of the Unknowable. The remaining parts of Mr. Spencer's

Sociology will treat of Professional Institutions, Industrial Institutions,

Linguistic Progress, Intellectual, Moral, and Aesthetic Progress.

The subject matter of ethics is the conduct termed

good or bad. Conduct

is the adjustment of acts to ends. The evolution of conduct is marked by

increasing perfection in the adjustment of acts to the furtherance of

individual life, the life of offspring, and social life. The ascription of

ethical character to the highly evolved conduct of man in relation to

these ends implies the fundamental assumption, that "life is good or bad

according as it does, or does not, bring a surplus of agreeable feeling."

The ideal of moral science is rational deduction: a rational utilitarianism

can be attained only by the recognition of the necessary laws--physical,

biological, psychological, and sociological--which condition the results of

actions; among these the biological laws have been largely neglected in

the past, though they are of the utmost importance as furnishing the link

between life and happiness. The "psychological view," again, explains the

origin of conscience. In the course of development man comes to recognize

the superiority of the higher and more representative feelings as guides

to action; this form of self-restraint, however, is characteristic of the

non-moral restraints as well, of the political, social, and religious

controls. From these the moral control proper has emerged--differing from

them in that it refers to intrinsic instead of extrinsic effects--and the

element of coerciveness in them, transferred, has generated the feeling of

moral compulsion (which, however, "will diminish as fast as moralization increases").

Such a rational ethics, based on the laws which condition welfare rather

than on a direct estimation of happiness, and premising the relativity of

all pains and pleasures, escapes fundamental objections to the earlier

hedonism (\_e.g.\_, those to the hedonic calculus); and, combining the

valuable elements in the divergent ethical theories, yields satisfactory

principles for the decision of ethical problems. Egoism takes precedence

of altruism; yet it is in turn dependent on this, and the two, on due

consideration, are seen to be co-essential. Entirely divorced from the

other, neither is legitimate, and a compromise is the only possibility;

while in the future advancing evolution will bring the two into complete

harmony. The goal of the whole process will be the ideal man in the ideal

society, the scientific anticipation of which, absolute ethics, promises

guidance for the relative and imperfect ethics of the transition period.

Examination of the actual, not the professed, ideas and sentiments of men

reveals wide variation in moral judgments. This is especially true of the

"pro-ethical" consciousnesses of external authorities, coercions, and

opinions--religious, political, and social--by which the mass of mankind

are governed; and is broadly due to variation in social conditions. Where

the need of external co-operation predominates the ethics of enmity

develops; where internal, peaceful co-operation is the chief social need

the ethics of amity results: and the evolution principle enables us to

infer that, as among certain small tribes in the past, so in the great

cultivated nations of the future, the life of amity will unqualifiedly

prevail. The Ethics of Individual Life shows the application of moral

judgments to all actions which affect individual welfare. The very fact

that some deviations from normal life are now morally disapproved, implies

the existence of both egoistic and altruistic sanctions for the moral

approval of all acts which conduce to normal living and the disapproval of

all minor deviations, though for the most part these have hitherto remained

unconsidered. Doubtless, however, moral control must here be somewhat

indefinite; and even scientific observation and analysis must leave the

production of a perfectly regulated conduct to "the organic adjustment of

constitution to [social] conditions."

The Ethics of Social Life includes justice and beneficence. Human justice

emerges from sub-human or animal justice, whose law (passing over gratis

benefits to offspring) is "that each individual shall receive the benefits

and evils of its own nature and its consequent conduct." This is the law

of human justice, also, but here it is more limited than before by the

non-interference which gregariousness requires, and by the increasing need

for the sacrifice of individuals for the good of the species. The egoistic

sentiment of justice arises from resistance to interference with free

action; the altruistic develops through sympathy under social conditions,

these being maintained meanwhile by a "pro-altruistic" sentiment, into

which dread of retaliation, of social reprobation, of legal punishment, and

of divine vengeance enter as component parts. The idea of justice emerges

gradually from the sentiment of justice: it has two

elements, one brute or

positive, with inequality as its ideal, one human or negative, the ideal

of which is equality. In early times the former of these was unduly

appreciated, as in later times the latter, the true conception includes

both, the idea of equality being applied to the limits and the idea of

inequality to the benefits of action. Thus the formula of justice becomes:

"Every man is free to do that which he wills, provided he infringes not the

equal freedom of any other man "--a law which finds its authority in the

facts, that it is an \_a priori\_ dictum of "consciousness after it has been

subject to the discipline of prolonged social life," and that it is also

deducible from the conditions of the maintenance of life at large and of

social life. From this law follow various particular corollaries or rights,

all of which coincide with ordinary ethical concepts and have legal

enactments corresponding to them. Political rights so-called do not exist;

government is simply a system of appliances for the maintenance of private

rights. Both the nature of the state and its constitution are variable:

the militant type requires centralization and a coercive constitution;

the industrial type implies a wider distribution of political power, but

requires a representation of interests rather than a representation of

individuals. Government develops as a result of war, and its function of

protection against internal aggression arises by differentiation from its

primary function of external defense. These two, then, constitute the

essential duties of the state; when war ceases the first falls away, and

its sole function becomes the maintenance of the conditions under which each individual may "gain the fullest life compatible with the fullest life of fellow-citizens." All beyond this, all interference with this life of the individual, whether by way of assistance, restraint, or education, proves in the end both unjust and impolitic. The remaining parts of the Ethics will treat of Negative and Positive Beneficence. If J.S. Mill and Spencer (the latter of whom, moreover, had announced evolution as a world-law before the appearance of Darwin), move in a direction akin to positivism, the same is true, further, of G.H. Lewes (1817-78; History of Philosophy, 5th ed., 1880; Problems of Life and Mind , 1874 \_seq\_). Turning to the discussion of particular disciplines, we may mention as prominent among English logicians,[1] besides Hamilton, Whewell, and Mill, Whately, Mansel, Thomson, De Morgan, Boole ( An Investigation of the Laws of Thought , 1854); W.S. Jevons ( The Principles of Science , 2d ed.,

Turning to the discussion of particular disciplines, we may mention as prominent among English logicians,[1] besides Hamilton, Whewell, and Mill, Whately, Mansel, Thomson, De Morgan, Boole (\_An Investigation of the Laws of Thought\_, 1854); W.S. Jevons (\_The Principles of Science\_, 2d ed., 1877); Venn (\_Symbolic Logic\_, 1881; \_Empirical Logic\_, 1889), Bradley, and Bosanquet. Among more recent investigators in the field of psychology we may name Carpenter, Ferrier, Maudsley, Galton, Ward, and Sully (\_The Human Mind\_, 1892), and in the field of comparative psychology, Lubbock, Romanes (\_Mental Evolution in Animals\_, 1883; \_Mental Evolution in Man\_, 1889), and Morgan (\_Animal Life and Intelligence\_, 1891). Among ethical writers the following, besides Spencer and Green, hold a foremost place: H. Sidgwick

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_(The Methods of Ethics_, 4th ed., 1890), Leslie Stephen
(The Science of
Ethics , 1882), and James Martineau (Types of Ethical
Theory_, 3d ed.,
1891). The quarterly review Mind (vols. i.-xvi. 1876-
91, edited by G.
Croom Robertson; new series from 1892, edited by G.F.
Stout) has since its
foundation played an important part in the development
of English thought.
[Footnote 1: Cf. Nedich, Die Lehre von der
Quantifikation des Prädikats
in vol. iii. of Wundt's Philosophische Studien ; L.
Liard, _Les
Logiciens Anglais Contemporains , 1878; Al. Riehl in
vol. i. of the
Vierteljahrsschrift für wissenschaftliche Philosophie_,
1877 [cf. also
appendix A to the English translation of Ueberweg's
Logic .--TR.].]
German idealism, for which S.T. Coleridge (died 1834)
and Thomas Carlyle
(died 1881) endeavored to secure an entrance into
England, for a long
time gained ground there but slowly. Later years,
however, have brought
increasing interest in German speculation, and much of
recent thinking
shows the influence of Kantian and Hegelian principles.
As pioneer of this
movement we may name J.H. Stirling (The Secret of
Hegel_, 1865); and as
its most prominent representatives John Caird (An
Introduction to the
Philosophy of Religion , 1880), Edward Caird (The
Critical Philosophy of
Immanuel Kant_, 1889; _The Evolution of Religion ,
1893), both in Glasgow,
and T.H. Green (1836-82; professor at Oxford;
Prolegomena to Ethics ,
3d ed., 1887; Works_, edited by Nettleship, 3 vols.,
1885-88).[1] In
opposition to the hereditary empiricism of English
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philosophy--which
appears in Spencer and Lewes, as it did in Locke,
Berkeley, and Hume,
though in somewhat altered form--Green maintains that
all experience is
constituted by intelligible relations. Knowledge,
therefore, is possible
only for a correlating self-consciousness; while nature,
as a system of
relations, is likewise dependent on a spiritual
principle, of which it is
the expression. Thus the central conception of Green's
philosophy becomes,
"that the universe is a single eternal activity or
energy, of which it is
the essence to be self-conscious, that is, to be itself
and not itself
in one" (Nettleship). To this universal consciousness we
are related as
manifestations or "communications" under the limitations
of our physical
organization. As such we are free, that is, self-
determined, determined by
nothing from without. The moral ideal is self-
realization or perfection,
the progressive reproduction of the divine self-
consciousness. This is
possible only in terms of a development of persons, for
as a self-conscious
personality the divine spirit can reproduce itself in
persons alone; and,
since "social life is to personality what language is to
thought,"
the realization of the moral ideal implies life in
common. The nearer
determination of the ideal is to be sought in the
manifestations of the
eternal spirit as they have been given in the moral
history of individuals
and nations. This shows what has already been implied in
the relation of
morality to personality and society, that moral good
must first of all be
a common good, one in which the permanent well-being of
self includes the
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well-being of others also. This is the germ of morality, the development of which yields, first, a gradual extension of the area of common good, and secondly, a fuller and more concrete determination of its content. Further representatives of this movement are W. Wallace, Adamson, Bradley; A. Seth is an ex-member. [Footnote 1: Cf. on Green the Memoir by Nettleship in vol. iii. of the Works .] The first and greatest of American philosophical thinkers was the Calvinistic theologian Jonathan Edwards (1703-58; treatise on the \_Freedom of Will\_, 1754; \_Works\_, 10 vols., edited by Dwight, 1830). Edwards's deterministic doctrine found numerous adherents (among them his son, who bore his father's name, died 1801) as well as strenuous opponents (Tappan, Whedon, Hazard among later names), and essentially contributed to the development of philosophical thought in the United States. For a considerable period this crystallized for the most part around elements derived from British thinkers, especially from Locke and the Scottish School. In 1829 James Marsh called attention to German speculation [1] by his American edition of Coleridge's Aids to Reflection , with an important introduction from his own hand. Later W.E. Channing (1780-1842), the head of the Unitarian movement, attracted many young and brilliant minds, the most noted of whom, Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-82), became a leader among the New England transcendentalists. Metaphysical idealism has, perhaps, met with less resistance in America than in England. Kant

and Hegel have been eagerly studied (G.S. Morris, died 1889; C.C. Everett; J. Watson in Canada; Josiah Royce, The Spirit of Modern Philosophy, 1892; and others); and The Journal of Speculative Philosophy, edited by W.T. Harris, has since 1867 furnished a rallying point for idealistic interests. The influence of Lotze has also been considerable (B.P. Bowne in Boston). Sympathy with German speculation, however, has not destroyed the naturally close connection with the work of writers who use the English tonque. Thus Spencer's writings have had a wide currency, and his system numbers many disciples, though these are less numerous among students of philosophy by profession (John Fiske, Outlines of Cosmic Philosophy, 1874). [Footnote 1: Cf. Porter, op. cit.] In the latest decades the broadening of the national life, the increasing acquaintance with foreign thought, and the rapid development of university work have greatly enlarged and deepened the interest in philosophical pursuits. This is manifested most clearly in the field of psychology, including especially the "new" or "physiological" psychology, and the history of philosophy, though indications of pregnant thought in other departments, as ethics and the philosophy of religion, and even of independent construction, are not wanting. Among psychologists of the day we may mention G.S. Hall, editor of The American Journal of Psychology (1887 seq.), G.T. Ladd ( Elements of Physiological Psychology , 1887), and William James ( Principles of Psychology , 1890).

The International

Journal of Ethics\_ (Philadelphia, 1890 seq.), edited by S. Burns Weston, is

"devoted to the advancement of ethical knowledge and practice"; among the

foreign members of its editorial committee are Jodl and Von Gizycki. The

weekly journal of popular philosophy, \_The Open Court\_, published in

Chicago, has for its object the reconciliation of religion and science; the

quarterly, \_The Monist\_ (1890 seq.), published by the same company under

the direction of Paul Carus (\_The Soul of Man\_, 1891), the establishment of

a monistic view of the world. Several journals, among them the Educational

Review\_ ( $\overline{1891}$  seq., edited by N.M. Butler), point to a growing interest in

pedagogical inquiry. \_The American Philosophical Review\_ (1892 seq.,

edited by J.G. Schurman, \_The Ethical Import of Darwinism\_, 1887) is a

comprehensive exponent of American philosophic thought.

## %4. Sweden, Norway, Denmark, and Holland.%

In \_Sweden\_ an empirical period represented by Leopold
(died 1829) and Th.

Thorild (died 1808), and based upon Locke and Rousseau, was followed, after

the introduction of Kant by D. Boëthius, 1794, by a drift toward idealism.

This was represented in an extreme form by B. Höijer (died 1812), a

contemporary and admirer of Fichte, who defended the right of philosophical

construction, and more moderately by Christofer Jacob Böstrom (1797-1866),

the most important systematic thinker of his country. As predecessors of

Böstrom we may mention Biberg (died 1827), E.G. Geijer (died 1846), and S.

Grubbe (died 1853), like him professors in Upsala, and

of his pupils,

S. Ribbing, known in Germany by his peculiar conception of the Platonic

doctrine of ideas (German translation, 1863-64), the moralist Sahlin

(1877), the historian, of Swedish philosophy[1] (1873 seq.) A. Nyblaeus of

Lund, and H. Edfeldt of Upsala, the editor of Böstrom's works (1883).

[Footnote 1: Cf. Höffding, \_Die Philosophie in Schweden\_ in the

\_Philosophische Monatshefte\_, vol. xv. 1879, p. 193 seq. |

Böstrom's philosophy is a system of self-activity and personalism which

recalls Leibnitz and Krause. The absolute or being is characterized as a

concrete, systematically articulated, self-conscious unity, which dwells

with its entire content in each of its moments, and whose members both bear

the character of the whole and are immanent in one another, standing in

relations of organic inter-determination. The antithesis between unity and

plurality is only apparent, present only for the divisive view of finite

consciousness. God is infinite, fully determinate personality (for

determination is not limitation), a system of self-dependent living beings,

differing in degree, in which we, as to our true being, are eternally and

unchangeably contained. Every being is a definite, eternal, and living

thought of God; thinking beings with their states and activities alone

exist; all that is real is spiritual, personal. Besides this true,

suprasensible world of Ideas, which is elevated above space, time, motion,

change, and development, and which has not arisen by creation or a process

of production, there exists for man, but only for him--man is formally

perfect, it is true, but materially imperfect (since he represents the real

from a limited standpoint) -- a sensuous world of phenomena as the sphere of

his activity. To this he himself belongs, and in it he is spontaneously to

develop the suprasensible content which is eternally given him (i.e., his

true nature), namely, to raise it from the merely potential condition of

obscure presentiment to clear, conscious actuality. Freedom is the power

to overcome our imperfection by means of our true nature, to realize our

suprasensible capacities, to become for ourselves what we are in ourselves

(in God). The ethics of Böstrom is distinguished from the Kantian ethics,

to which it is related, chiefly by the fact that it seeks to bring

sensibility into a more than merely negative relation to reason. Society

is an eternal, and also a personal, Idea in God. The most perfect form

of government is constitutional monarchy; the ideal goal of history, the

establishment of a system of states embracing all mankind.

- J. Borelius of Lund is an Hegelian, but differs from the master in regard
- to the doctrine of the contradiction. The Hegelian philosophy has adherents
- in \_Norway\_ also, as G.V. Lyng (died 1884; \_System of Fundamental Ideas\_),
- M.J. Monrad (\_Tendencies of Modern Thought\_, 1874, German translation,
- 1879), both professors in Christiania, and Monrad's pupil G. Kent (\_Hegel's

Doctrine of the Nature of Experience\_, 1891).

The \_Danish\_ philosophy of the nineteenth century has been described

by Höffding in the second volume of the Archiv für Geschichte der Philosophie , 1888. He begins with the representatives of the speculative movement: Steffens (see above), Niels Treschow (1751-1833), Hans Christian Oersted (1777-1851; Spirit in Nature, German translation, Munich, 1850-51), and Frederik Christian Sibbern (1785-1872). A change was brought about by the philosophers of religion Sören Kierkegaard (1813-55) and Rasmus Nielsen (1809-84; Philosophy of Religion, 1869), who opposed speculative idealism with a strict dualism of knowledge and faith, and were in turn opposed by Georg Brandes (born 1842) and Hans Bröchner (1820-75). Among younger investigators the Copenhagen professors, Harald Höffding[1] (born 1843) and Kristian Kroman[2] (born 1846) stand in the first rank. [Footnote 1: Höffding: The Foundations of Human Ethics , 1876, German translation, 1880; \_Outlines of Psychology\_, 1882, English translation by Lowndes, 1891, from the German translation, 1887; \_Ethics\_, 1887, German translation by Bendixen, 1888.] [Footnote 2: Kroman: Our Knowledge of Nature, German translation, 1883; A Brief Logic and Psychology , German translation by Bendixen, 1890.] Land ( Mind , vol. iii. 1878) and G. von Antal (1888) have written on philosophy in Holland . Down to the middle of the nineteenth century the field was occupied by an idealism based upon the ancients, in particular upon Plato: Franz Hemsterhuis (1721-90; Works , new ed., 1846-50), and the philologists Wyttenbach and Van Heusde. Then Cornelius

Wilhelm Opzoomer[3]
(1821-92: professor

(1821-92; professor in Utrecht) brought in a new movement. Opzoomer

favors empiricism. He starts from Mill and Comte, but goes beyond them in

important points, and assigns faith a field of its own beside knowledge.

In opposition to apriorism he seeks to show that experience is capable of

yielding universal and necessary truths; that space, time, and causality

are received along with the content of thought; that mathematics itself is

based upon experience; and that the method of natural science, especially

deduction, must be applied to the mental sciences. The philosophy of mind

considers man as an individual being, in his connection with others, in

relation to a higher being, and in his development; accordingly it

divides into psychology (which includes logic, aesthetics, and ethology),

sociology, the philosophy of religion, and the philosophy of history.

Central to Opzoomer's system is his doctrine of the five sources of

knowledge: Sensation, the feeling of pleasure and pain, aesthetic, moral,

and religious feeling. If we build on the foundation of the first three

alone, we end in materialism; if we leave the last unused, we reach

positivism; if we make religious feeling the sole judge of truth, mysticism

is the outcome. The criteria of science are utility and progress. These are

still wanting in the mental sciences, in which the often answered but never

decided questions continually recur, because we have neither derived the

principles chosen as the basis of the deduction from an exact knowledge

of the phenomena nor tested the results by experience. The causes of this

defective condition can only be removed by imitating the study of nature:

we must learn that no conclusions can be reached except from facts, and

that we are to strive after knowledge of phenomena and their laws alone. We

have no right to assume an "essence" of things beside and in addition to

phenomena, which reveals itself in them or hides behind them. Pupils of

Opzoomer are his successor in his Utrecht chair, Van der Wyck, and Pierson.

We may also mention J.P.N. Land, who has done good service in editing

the works of Spinoza and of Geulincx, and the philosopher of religion Rauwenhoff (1888).

[Footnote 1: Opzoomer: \_The Method of Science\_, a Handbook of Logic, German translation by Schwindt, 1852; \_Religion\_, German translation by Mook, 1869.]

On the system of the Hungarian philosopher Cyrill Horváth (died 1884 at

Pesth) see the essay by  ${\tt E.}$  Nemes in the \_Zeitschrift für Philosophie ,

vol. lxxxviii, 1886. Since 1889 a review, \_Problems of Philosophy and

Psychology\_, has appeared at Moscow in Russian, under the direction of

Professor N. von Grot.

## CHAPTER XVI.

GERMAN PHILOSOPHY SINCE THE DEATH OF HEGEL.

With Hegel the glorious dynasty which, with a strong hand, had guided the fate of German philosophy since the conclusion of the preceding century

disappears. From his death (1831) we may date the second period of

post-Kantian philosophy,[1] which is markedly and unfavorably distinguished

from the first by a decline in the power of speculative creation and by

a division of effort. If previous to this the philosophical public,

comprising all the cultured, had been eagerly occupied with problems in

common, and had followed with unanimous interest the work of those who were

laboring at them, during the last fifty years the interest of wider circles

in philosophical questions has grown much less active; almost every

thinker goes his own way, giving heed only to congenial voices; the inner

connection of the schools has been broken down; the touch with thinkers of

different views has been lost. The latest decades have been the first

to bring a change for the better, in so far as new rallying points of

philosophical interest have been created by the neo-Kantian movement, by

the systems of Lotze and Von Hartmann, by the impulse toward the philosophy

of nature proceeding from Darwinism, by energetic labors in the field of

practical philosophy, and by new methods of investigation in psychology.

[Footnote 1: On philosophy since 1831 cf. vol. iii. of J.E. Erdmann's

\_History\_; Ueberweg, \_Grundriss\_, part iii. §§ 37-49 (English translation,

vol. ii. pp. 292-516); Lange, \_History of Materialism\_;
B. Erdmann, \_Die

Philosophie der Gegenwart\_ in the \_Deutsche Rundschau\_, vols. xix., xx.,

1879, June and July numbers; (A. Krohn,) \_Streifzüge durch die Philosophie

der Gegenwart\_ in the \_Zeitschrift für Philosophie und philosophische

Kritik\_, vols. lxxxvii., lxxxix., 1885-86; (Burt,
\_History of Modern
Philosophy\_, 1892), also the third volume of
Windelband's \_Geschichte der
neueren Philosophie , when it appears.]

%1. From the Division of the Hegelian School to the
Materialistic
Controversy.%

A decade after the philosophy of Hegel had entered on its supremacy a

division in the school was called forth by Strauss's \_Life of Jesus\_(1835).

The differences were brought to light by the discussion of religious

problems, in regard to which Hegel had not expressed himself with

sufficient distinctness. The relation of knowledge and faith, as he had

defined it, admitted of variant interpretations and deductions, and this in

favor of Church doctrine as well as in opposition to it. Philosophy has the

same content as religion, but in a different form,
i.e. , not in the form

of representation, but in the form of the concept--it transforms dogma into

speculative truth. The conservative Hegelians hold fast to the identity of

content in the two modes of cognition; the liberals, to the alteration

in form, which, they assert, brings an alteration in content with it.

According to Hegel the lower stage is "sublated" in the higher, \_i.e.\_,

conserved as well as negated. The orthodox members of the school emphasize

the conservation of religious doctrines, their justification from the side

of the philosopher; the progressists, their negation, their overcoming by

the speculative concept. The general question, whether the ecclesiastical

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meaning of a dogma is retained or to be abandoned in its
transformation
into a philosopheme, divides into three special
questions, the
anthropological, the soteriogical, and the theological.
These are: whether
on Hegelian principles immortality is to be conceived as
a continuance
of individual existence on the art of particular
spirits, or only as the
eternity of the universal reason; whether by the God-man
the person of
Christ is to be understood, or, on the other hand, the
human species, the
Idea of Humanity; whether personality belongs to the
Godhead before the
creation of the world, or whether it first attains to
self-consciousness
in human spirits, whether Hegel was a theist or a
pantheist, whether he
teaches the transcendence or the immanence of God. The
Old Hegelians defend
the orthodox interpretation; the Young Hegelians oppose
it. The former,
Göschel, Gabler, Hinrichs, Schaller (died 1868; History
of the Philosophy
of Nature since Bacon , 1841 seq .), J.E. Erdmann in
Halle (1805-92; Body
and Soul , 1837; Psychological Letters , 1851, 6th ed.,
1882; Earnest
Sport , 1871, 4th ed., 1890), form, according to
Strauss's parliamentary
comparison carried out by Michelet, the "right"; the
latter, Strauss,
Feuerbach, Bruno Bauer, and A. Ruge, who, with
Echtermeyer, edited the
Hallesche, afterward Deutsche, Jahrbücher für
Wissenschaft und Kunst,
1838-42, the "left." Between them, and forming the
"center," stand Karl
Rosenkranz[1] in Königsberg (1805-79), C.L. Michelet in
Berlin (p. 16;
Hegel, the Unrefuted World-philosopher, 1870; System
of Philosophy,
1876 seq .), and the theologians Marheineke (a pupil of
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Heidelberg) and W. Vatke ( Philosophy of Religion ,
edited by Preiss,
1888). Contrasted with these is the group of semi- or
pseudo-Hegelians (p.
596), who declare themselves in accord with the theistic
doctrines of the
right, but admit that the left represents Hegel's own
opinion, or at least
the correct deductions from his position.
[Footnote 1: K. Rosenkranz: Psychology , 1837, 3d ed.,
1863; Science
of the Logical Idea , 1858; Studies , 1839 seq ., New
Studies_, 1875
seq .; Aesthetics of the Ugly , 1853; several works on
the history of
poetry.]
The following should also be mentioned as Hegelians: the
philosopher of
history, Von Cieszkowski, the pedagogical writer,
Thaulow (at Kiel, died
1883), the philosopher of religion and of law, A. Lasson
at Berlin, the
aesthetic writers Hotho, Friedrich Theodor Vischer[1]
(1807-87), and Max
Schasler ( Critical History of Aesthetics , 1872;
Aesthetics , 1886),
the historians of philosophy, Schwegler (died 1857;
History of Greek
Philosophy_, 1859, 4th ed., 1886, edited by Karl
Köstlin, whose
Aesthetics appeared 1869), Eduard Zeller[2] of Berlin
(born 1814),
and Kuno Fischer (born 1824; 1856-72 professor at Jena,
since then at
Heidelberg; Logic and Metaphysics, 2d ed., 1865).
While Weissenborn (died
1874) is influenced by Schleiermacher also, and Zeller
and Fischer strive
back toward Kant, Johannes Volkelt[3] in Würzburg (born
1848), who started
from Hegel and advanced through Schopenhauer and
Hartmann, has of late
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Daub at

years established an independent noëtical position and has done good service by his energetic opposition to positivism (Das Denken als Hülfvorstellungs--Thätigkeit und als Aupassungsvorgang in the Zeitschrift für Philosophic, vols. xcvi., xcvii., 1889-90). [Footnote 1: Vischer: Aesthetics , 1846-58; Critical Excursions , 1844 seq .; several Hefte "Altes and Neues ". The diary in the second part of the novel Auch Einer develops an original pantheistic view of the world. [Footnote 2: Zeller: The Philosophy of the Greeks in its Historical Development , 5 vols., 3d ed., vol. i. 5th ed. (English translation, 1868 seq .); three collections of Addresses and Essays , 1865, 1877, 1884.] [Footnote 3: Volkelt: The Phantasy in Dreams , 1875; Kant's Theory of Knowledge , 1879; On the Possibility of Metaphysics , inaugural address at Basle, 1884; Experience and Thought, Critical Foundation of the Theory of Knowledge\_, 1886; Lectures Introductory to the Philosophy of the Present Time (delivered in Frankfort on the Main), 1892.] The leaders of the Hegelian left require more detailed consideration. In David Friedrich Strauss[1] (1808-74, born and died at Ludwigsburg) the philosophy of religion becomes a historical criticism of the Bible and of dogmatics. The biblical narratives are, in great part, not history (this has been the common error alike of the supernaturalistic and of the rationalistic interpreters), but myths, that is, suprasensible facts presented in the form of history and in symbolic

language. It is evident

from the contradictions in the narratives and the impossibility of miracles

that we are not here concerned with actual events. The myths possess

(speculative, absolute) truth, but no (historical) reality. They are

unintentional creations of the popular imagination; the spirit of the

community speaks in the authors of the Gospels, using the historical factor

(the life-history of Jesus) with mythical embellishments as an investiture

for a supra-historical, eternal truth (the speculative Idea of

incarnation). The God become man, in which the infinite and the finite, the

divine nature and the human, are united, is the human race. The Idea of

incarnation manifests itself in a multitude of examples which supplement

one another, instead of pouring forth its whole fullness in a single one.

The (real) Idea of the race is to be substituted for a single individual

as the subject of the predicates (resurrection, ascension, etc.) which the

Church ascribes to Christ. The Son of God is \_Humanity\_.

[Footnote 1: Strauss: \_The Life of Jesus\_, 1835-36, 4th ed., 1840 [English

translation by George Eliot, 2d. ed., 1893]; the same "for the German"

People, 1864 [English translation, 1865]; \_Christian Dogmatics\_, 1840-41;

\_Voltaire\_, 1870; \_Collected Writings\_, 12 vols., edited by Zeller,

1876-78. On Strauss cf. Zeller, 1874 [English, 1874], and Hausrath, 1876-78.]

In his second principal work Strauss criticises the dogmas of Christianity

as sharply as he had criticised the Gospel narrative in the first one. The

historical development of these has of itself effected their destruction:

the history of dogma is the objective criticism of dogma. Christianity and

philosophy, theism and pantheism, dualism and immanence, are irreconcilable

opposites. To be able to know we must cease to believe. Dogma is the

product of the unphilosophical, uncultured consciousness; belief in

revelation, only for those who have not yet risen to reason. In the

transformation of religious representations into philosophical Ideas

nothing specifically representative is left; the form of representation

must be actually overcome. The Christian contraposition of the present

world and that which is beyond is explained by the fact that the

sensuo-rational spirit of man, so long as it does not philosophically know

itself as the unity of the infinite and the finite, but only feels itself

as finite, sensuo-empirical consciousness, projects the infinite, which

it has in itself, as though this were something foreign, looks on it

as something beyond the world. This separation of faith is entirely

unphilosophical; it is the mission of the philosopher to reduce all that is

beyond the world to the present. Thus for him immortality is not something

to come, but the spirit's own power to rise above the finite to the Idea.

And like future existence, so the transcendent God also disappears. The

absolute is the universal unity of the world, which posits and sublates the

individual as its modes. God is the being in all existence, the life in

all that lives, the thought in all that think: he does not stand as an

individual person beside and above other persons, but is

the infinite which

personifies itself and attains to consciousness in human spirits, and this

from eternity; before there was a humanity of earth there were spirits on

other stars, in whom God reflected himself.

Three decades later Strauss again created a sensation by his confession

of materialism and atheism, \_The Old Faith and the New\_, 1872 (since the

second edition, "With a Postscript as Preface"),[1] in which he continues

the conflict against religious dualism. The question "Are we"--the

cultured men of the day--"still Christians?" is answered in the negative.

Christianity is a cult of poverty, despising the world, and antagonistic to

labor and culture; but we have learned to esteem science and art, riches

and acquisition, as the chief levers of culture and of human progress.

Christianity dualistically tears apart body and soul, time and eternity,

the world and God; we need no Creator, for the life-process has neither

beginning nor end. The world is framed for the highest reason, it is true,

but it has not been framed by a highest reason. Our highest Idea is the

All, which is conformed to law, and instinct with life and reason, and

our feeling toward the universe--the consciousness of dependence on its

laws--exercises no less of ethical influence, is no less full of reverence,

and no less exposed to injury from an irreverent pessimism, than the

feeling of the devout of the old type toward their God. Hence the answer

to the second question "Have we still a religion?" maybe couched in the

affirmative. The new faith does not need a \_cultus\_ and a Church. Since the

dry services of the free congregations offer nothing for the fancy and the

spirit, the edification of the heart must be accomplished in other ways--by

participation in the interests of humanity, in the national life, and,

not last, by aesthetic enjoyment. Thus in his last work, which in two

appendices reaches a discussion of the great German poets and musicians,

the old man returns to a thought to which he had given earlier expression,

that the religious \_cultus\_ should be replaced by the cultus of genius.

[Footnote 1: English translation by Mathilde Blind, 1873.]

As Strauss went over from Hegelianism to pantheism, so Ludwig Feuerbach[1]

(1804-72), a son of the great jurist, Anselm Feuerbach, after he had for

a short time moved in the same direction, took the opposite, the

individualistic course, only, like Strauss, to end at last in materialism.

"My first thought," as he himself describes the course of his development,

"was God; my second, reason; my third and last, man." As theology has been

overcome by Hegel's philosophy of reason, so this in turn must give place

to the philosophy of man. "The new philosophy makes man, including nature

as his basis, the highest and sole subject of philosophy, and,

consequently, anthropology the universal science." Only that which is

immediately self-evident is true and divine. But only that which is

sensible is evident (\_sonnenklar)\_; it is only where sensibility begins

that all doubt and conflict cease. Sensible beings alone are true, real

beings; existence in space and time is alone existence;

truth, reality, and sensibility are identical. While the old philosophy took for its starting point the principle, "I am an abstract, a merely thinking being; the body does not belong to my essence," the new philosophy, on the other hand, begins with the principle, "I am a real, a sensible being; the body in its totality is my eqo, my essence itself." Feuerbach, however, uses the concept of sensibility in so wide and vague a sense supported--or deceived--by the ambiguity of the word sensation, he includes under it even the most elevated and sacred feelings. Even the objects of art are seen, heard, and felt; even the souls of other men are sensed. In the sensations the deepest and highest truths

are concealed. Not only the external, but the internal also, not only flesh, but spirit, not

only the thing, but the ego, not only the finite, the phenomenal, but also

the true divine essence is an object of the senses. Sensation proves the

existence of objects outside our head--there is no other proof of being

than love, than sensation in general. Everything is perceivable by the

senses, if not directly, yet indirectly, if not with the vulgar, untrained

senses, yet with the "cultivated senses," if not with the eye of the

anatomist or chemist, yet with that of the philosopher. All our ideas

spring from the senses, but their production requires communication and

converse between man and man. The higher concepts cannot be derived from

the individual Ego without a sensuously given Thou; the highest object of

sense is man; man does not reach concepts and reason in general by himself,

but only as one of two. The nature of man is contained in community alone;

only in life with others and for others does he attain his destiny and

happiness. The conscience is the ego putting itself in the place of another

who has been injured. Man with man, the unity of I and Thou, is God, and God is love.

[Footnote 1: Feuerbach was born at Landshut, studied at Heidelberg and

Berlin, habilitated, 1828, at Erlangen, and lived, 1836-60, in the village

of Bruckberg, not far from Bayreuth, and from 1860 until his death in

Rechenberg, a suburb of Nuremberg. \_Collected Works\_ in 10 vols., 1846-66.

The chief works are entitled: \_P. Bayle\_, 1838, 2d ed., 1844; Philosophy

and Christianity\_, 1839; \_The Essence of Christianity\_, 1841, 4th ed., 1883

[English translation by George Eliot, 1854]; \_Principles of the Philosophy

of the Future\_, 1843; \_The Essence of Religion\_, 1845; \_Theogony\_, 1857;

\_God, Freedom, and Immortality\_, 1866. Karl Grün, 1874, C.N. Starcke, 1885,

and W. Bolin, 1891, treat of Feuerbach.

To the philosophy of religion Feuerbach assigns the task of giving a

psychological explanation of the genesis of religion, instead of showing

reason in religion. In bidding us believe in miracles dogma is a

prohibition to think. Hence the philosopher is not to justify it, but to

uncover the illusion to which it owes its origin. Speculative theology is

an intoxicated philosophy; it is time to become sober, and to recognize

that philosophy and religion are diametrically opposed to each other,

that they are related to each other as health to

disease, as thought to

phantasy. Religion arises from the fact that man objectifies his own true

essence, and opposes it to himself as a personal being, without coming to a

consciousness of this divestment of self, of the identity of the divine

and human nature. Hence the Hegelian principles, that the absolute is

self-consciousness, that in man God knows himself, must be reversed:

self-consciousness is the absolute; in his God man knows himself only. The

Godhead is our own universal nature, freed from its individual limitations,

intuited and worshiped as another, independent being, distinct from us.

God is self objectified, the inner nature of man expressed; man is

the beginning, the middle, and the end of religion. All theology is

anthropology, for all religion is a self-deification of man. In religion

man makes a division in his own nature, posits himself as double, first as

limited (as a human individual), then as unlimited, raised to infinity (as

God); and this deified self he worships in order to obtain from it the

satisfaction of his needs, which the course of the world leaves unmet. Thus

religion grows out of egoism: its basis is the difference between our will

and our power; its aim, to set us free from the dependence which we feel

before nature. (Like culture, religion seeks to make nature an intelligible

and compliant being, only that in this it makes use of the supernatural

instruments faith, prayer, and magic; it is only gradually that men learn

to attack the evils by natural means.) That which man himself is not, but

wishes to be, that he represents to himself in his gods as existing; they

are the wishes of man's heart transformed into real beings, his longing

after happiness satisfied by the fancy. The same holds true of all dogmas:

as God is the affirmation of our wishes, so the world beyond is the present

embellished and idealized by the fancy. Instead of "God is merciful, is

love, is omnipotent, he performs miracles and hears prayers," the statement

must be reversed: mercy, love, omnipotence, to perform miracles, and to

hear prayers, is divine. In the sacraments of baptism and the Lord's supper

Feuerbach sees the truth that water and food are indispensable and divine.

As Feuerbach, following out this naturalistic tendency, reached the extreme

of materialism, the influence of his philosophy--whose different phases

there is no occasion to trace out in detail--had already passed its

culmination. From his later writings little more has found its way into

public notice than the pun, that man is (\_ist\_) what he eats (\_isst\_).

The remaining members of the Hegelian left may be treated more briefly.

Bruno Bauer[1] (died in 1882; his principal work is the
 Critique of the

Synoptics\_, in three volumes, 1841-42, which had been preceded, in 1840, by

a \_Critique of the Evangelical History of John\_) at first belonged on the

right of the school, but soon went over to the extreme left. He explains

the Gospel narratives as creations with a purpose ( Tendenzdichtungen ),

as intentional, but not deceitful, inventions, from which, despite their

unreality, history may well be learned, inasmuch as they reflect the spirit

of the time in which they were constructed. His own publications and those

of his brother Edgar are much more radical after the year 1844. In these

the brothers advocate the standpoint of "pure or absolute criticism," which

extends itself to all things and events for or against which sides are

taken from any quarter, and calmly watches how everything destroys

itself. As soon as anything is admitted, it is no longer true. Nothing is

absolutely valid, all is vain; it is only the criticising, all-destroying

ego, free from all ethical ties, that possesses truth.

[Footnote 1: Not to be confused with the head of the Tübingen School,

Ferdinand Christian Baur (died 1860).]

One further step was possible beyond Feuerbach and Bruno Bauer, that from

the community to the particular, selfish individual, from the criticising,

therefore thinking, ego, to the ego of sensuous enjoyment. This step was

taken in that curious book \_The Individual and his Property\_, which Kaspar

Schmidt, who died in 1856 at Berlin, published in 1845 (2d ed., 1882),

under the pseudonym of Max Stirner. The Individual of whom the title speaks

is the egoist. For me nothing is higher than myself; I use men and use up

the world for my own pleasure. I seek to be and have all that I can be

and have; I have a right to all that is within my power. Morality is a

delusion, justice, like all Ideas, a phantom. Those who believe in ideals,

and worship such generalities as self-consciousness,
man, society, are

still deep in the mire of prejudice and superstition, and have banished the

old orthodox phantom of the Deity only to replace it by a new one. Nothing

whatever is to be respected.

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Among the opponents of the Hegelian philosophy the members of the "theistic

school," who have above been designated as semi-Hegelians, approximate it

most closely. These endeavor, in part retaining the dialectic method, to

blend the immanence of the absolute, which philosophy cannot give up and

concerning which Hegel had erred only by way of overemphasis, with the

transcendence of God demanded by Christian consciousness, to establish a

theism which shall contain pantheism as a moment in itself. God is present

in all creatures, yet distinct from them; he is intramundane as well as

extramundane; he is self-conscious personality, free creative spirit,

is this from all eternity, and does not first become such through the

world-development. He does not need the world for his perfection, but out

of his goodness creates it. Philosophy must begin with the living Godhead

instead of beginning, like Hegel's Logic, with the empty concept of being.

For the categories--as Schelling had already objected--express necessary

forms or general laws only, to which all reality must conform, but which

are never capable of generating reality; the content which appears in them

and which obeys them, can only be created by a Deity, and only empirically

cognized. This is the standpoint of Christian Hermann Weisse[1] in Leipsic

(1801-66), Karl Philipp Fischer[2] in Erlangen (1807-85), Immanuel Hermann

Fichte[3] (1797-1879; 1842-65 professor in Tübingen), and the follower of

Schleiermacher, Julius Braniss in Breslau (1792-1873). The following hold

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similar views, influenced, like Weisse and K. Ph.
Fischer, by Schelling:
Jacob Sengler of Freiburg (1799-1878; The Idea of God,
1845 seq .),
Leopold Schmid of Giessen (1808-69; cf. p. 516, note),
Johannes Huber
(died 1879), Moritz Carrière[4] (born 1817), both in
Munich, K. Steffensen
of Basle (1816-88; Collected Essays , 1890), and Karl
Heyder in Erlangen
(1812-86; The Doctrine of Ideas, vol. i. 1874).
Chalybaeus at Kiel (died
1862), and Friedrich Harms at Berlin (died 1880;
Metaphysics ,
posthumously edited by H. Wiese, 1885), who, like
Fortlage and I.H. Fichte,
start from the system of the elder Fichte, should also
be mentioned as
sympathizing with the opinions of those who have been
named.
[Footnote 1: Weisse: System of Aesthetics , 1830; The
Idea of the
Godhead , 1833; Philosophical Dogmatics , 1855. His
pupil Rudolf Seydel
has published several of his posthumous works; H. Lotze
also acknowledges
that he owes much to Weisse. Rud. Seydel in Leipsic
(born 1835), Logic,
1866; Ethics_, 1874; cf. p. 17.]
[Footnote 2: K. Ph. Fischer: The Idea of the Godhead,
1839; Outlines of
the System of Philosophy , 1848 seq .; The Untruth of
Sensationalism and
Materialism , 1853.
[Footnote 3: I.H. Fichte: _System of Ethics , 1850-53,
the first volume of
which gives a history of moral philosophy since 1750;
Anthropology , 1856,
3d ed., 1876; Psychology , 1864.]
[Footnote 4: Carrière: Aesthetics , 1859, 3d ed., 1885;
The Moral Order
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of the World\_, 1877, 2d ed., 1891; Art in connection with the Development of Culture , 5 vols., 1863-73.] The same may be said, further, of Hermann Ulrici[1] of Halle (1806-84), for many years the editor of the Zeitschrift für Philosophie und philosophische Kritik , founded in 1837 by the younger Fichte and now edited by the author of this History , which, as the organ of the theistic school, opposed, first, the pantheism of the Young Hegelians, and then the revived materialism so loudly proclaimed after the middle of the century. This Zeitschrift of Fichte and Ulrici, following the altered circumstances of the time, has experienced a change of aim, so that it now seeks to serve idealistic efforts of every shade; while the Philosophische Monatshefte (founded by Bergmann in 1868, edited subsequently by Schaarschmidt, and now) edited by P. Natorp of Marburg, neo-Kantianism, and the Vierteljahrsschrift für wissenschaftliche Philosophie\_ (begun in 1877, and) edited by R. Avenarius of Zurich, especially cultivates those parts of philosophy which are open to exact treatment.

[Footnote 1: Ulrici: \_On Shakespeare's Dramatic Art\_, 1839, 3d ed., 1868 [English, 1876]; \_Faith and Knowledge\_, 1858; \_God and Nature\_, 1861, 2d ed., 1866; \_God and Man\_, in two volumes, \_Body and Soul\_, 1866, 2d ed., 1874, and \_Natural Law\_, 1872; various treatises on Logic--in which consciousness is based on the distinguishing activity, and the categories conceived as functional modes of this--on Spiritualism,

The appearance of materialism was the consequence of the flagging of the philosophic spirit, on the one hand, and, on the other, of the dissatisfaction of the representatives of natural science with the constructions of the Schelling-Hegelian school. If the German naturalist is especially exposed to the danger of judging all reality from the section of it with which he is familiar, from the world of material substances and mechanical motions, the reason lies in the fact that he does not find it easy, like the Englishman for example, to let the scientific and the philosophico-religious views of the world go on side by side as two entirely heterogeneous modes of looking at things. The metaphysical impulse to generalization and unification spurs him on to break down the boundary between the two spheres, and, since the physical view of things has become part of his flesh and blood, psychical phenomena are for him nothing but brain-vibrations, and the freedom of the will and all religious ideas, nothing but illusions. The materialistic controversy broke out most actively at the convention of naturalists at Göttingen in 1854, when Rudolph Wagner in his address "On the Creation of Man and the Substance of the Soul" declared, in opposition to Karl Voqt, that there is no physiological reason for denying the descent of man from one pair and an immaterial immortal soul. Vogt's answer was entitled "Collier Faith and

Science." Among others Schaller (\_Body and Soul\_, 1855),

treatise with the same title, 1856, and the Jena

J.B. Meyer in a

physicist, Karl Snell,[1] took part in the controversy by way of criticism and mediation. A much finer nature than the famous leaders of materialism --Moleschott ( The Circle of Life , 1852, in answer to Liebig's Chemical Letters ), and Louis Büchner, with whose Force and Matter (1855, 16th ed., 1888; English translation by Collingwood, 4th ed., 1884) the gymnasiast of to-day still satisfies his freethinking needs--is H. Czolbe (1819-73; New Exposition of Sensationalism , 1855; The Limits and Origin of Human Knowledge , 1865), who, on ethical grounds, demands the exclusion of everything suprasensible and contentment with the given world of phenomena, but holds that, besides matter and motion, eternal, purposive forms and original sensations in a world-soul are necessary to explain organic and psychical phenomena.

[Footnote 1: Snell (1806-86): \_The Materialistic Question\_, 1858; \_The Creation of Man\_, 1863. R. Seydel has edited \_Lectures on the Descent of Man\_, 1888, from Snell's posthumous writings.]

%2. New Systems: Trendelenburg, Fechner, Lotze, and
Hartmann%.

The speculative impulse, especially in the soul of the German people, is ineradicable. It has neither allowed itself to be discouraged by the collapse of the Hegelian edifice, nor to be led astray by the clamor of the apostles of empiricism, nor to be intimidated by the papal proclamation of the infallibility of Thomas Aquinas.[1] Manifold attempts have been made at a new conception of the world, and with varying

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success. Of the earlier
theories[2] only two have been able to gather a circle
of adherents--the
dualistic theism of Günther (1783-1863), and the organic
view of the world
of Trendelenburg (1802-72).
[Footnote 2: In 1879 a summons was sent forth from Rome
for the revival and
dissemination of the Thomistic system as the only true
philosophy (cf. R.
Eucken, Die Philosophic des Thomas von Aquino und die
Kultur der
Neuzeit , 1886). This movement is supported by the
journals, _Jahrbuch für
Philosophie und spekulative Theologie, edited by
Professor E. Commer
of Münster, 1886 seq ., and Philosophisches Jahrbuch ,
edited, at the
instance and with the support of the Görres Society, by
Professor Const.
Gutberlet of Fulda, 1888 seq . While the text-books of
Hagemann, Stoeckl,
Gutberlet, Pesch, Commer, C.M. Schneider, and others
also follow Scholastic
lines, B. Bolzano (died 1848), M. Deutinger (died 1864)
and his pupil
Neudecker, Oischinger, Michelis, and W. Rosenkrantz
(1821-74; Science of
Knowledge_, 1866-68), who was influenced by Schelling,
have taken a freer
course.]
[Footnote 2: Trahndorff, gymnasial professor in Berlin
(1782-1863),
Aesthetics , 1827 (cf. E. von Hartmann in the
Philosophische
Monatshefte_, vol. xxii. 1886, p. 59 _seq_., and J. von
Billewicz, in the
same, vol. xxi. 1885, p. 561 seq .); J.F. Reiff in
Tübingen: System of
the Determinations of the Will , 1842; K. Chr. Planck
(died 1880): The
Ages of the World , 1850 _seq_.; _Testament of a
German , edited by Karl
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Köstlin, 1881; F. Röse (1815-59), On the Method of the Knowledge of the Absolute , 1841; Psychology as Introduction to the Philosophy of Individuality , 1856. Emanuel Sharer follows Röse. Friedrich Rohmer (died 1856): Science of God, Science of Man, in Friedrich Rohmer's Wissenschaft und Leben , edited by Bluntschli and Rud. Seele, 6 vols., 1871-92.1 Anton Günther (engaged in authorship from 1827; Collected Writings , 1881; Anti-Savarese, edited with an appendix by P. Knoodt), who in 1857 was compelled to retract his views, invokes the spirit of Descartes in opposition to the Hegelian pantheism. In agreement with Descartes, Günther starts from self-consciousness (in the ego being and thought are identical), and brings not only the Creator and the created world, but also nature (to which the soul is to be regarded as belonging) and spirit into a relation of exclusive opposition, yet holds that in man nature (body and soul) and spirit are united, and that they interact without prejudice to their qualitative difference. J.H. Pabst (died in 1838 in Vienna), Theodor Weber of Breslau, Knoodt of Bonn (died 1889), V. Knauer of Vienna and others are Güntherians.

Adolf Trendelenburg[1] of Berlin, the acute critic of Hegel and Herbart, in his own thinking goes back to the philosophy of the past, especially to that of Aristotle. Motion and purpose are for him fundamental facts, which are common to both being and thinking, which mediate between the two, and make the agreement of knowledge and reality possible.

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The ethical is a
higher stage of the organic. Space, time, and the
categories are forms of
thought as well as of being; the logical form must not
be separated from
the content, nor the concept from intuition. We must not
fail to mention
that Trendelenburg introduced a peculiar and fruitful
method of treating
the history of philosophy, viz., the historical
investigation of particular
concepts, in which Teichmüller of Dorpat (1832-88;
Studies in the History
of Concepts , 1874; New Studies in the History of
Concepts_, 1876-79;
The Immortality of the Soul , 2d ed., 1879; The Nature
of Love , 1880;
Literary Quarrels in the Fourth Century before Christ ,
1881 and 1884),
and Eucken of Jena (cf. pp. 17 and 623) have followed
his example. Kym in
Zurich (born 1822; Metaphysical Investigations , 1875;
The Problem of
Evil , 1878) is a pupil of Trendelenburg.
[Footnote 1: Trendelenburg: Logical Investigations,
1840, 3d ed., 1870;
Historical Contributions to Philosophy, 3 vols., 1846,
1855, 1867;
Natural Law on the Basis of Ethics , 1860, 2d ed.,
1868. On Trendelenburg
cf. Eucken in the Philosophische Monatshefte , 1884.]
Of more recent systematic attempts the following appear
worthy of
mention: Von Kirchmann (1802-84; from 1868 editor of the
Philosophische
Bibliothek_), _The Philosophy of Knowledge_, 1865;
_Aesthetics_, 1868; _On
the Principles of Realism , 1875; Catechism of
Philosophy_ 2d ed., 1881;
E. Dühring (born 1833), Natural Dialectic , 1865; The
Value of Life_,
1865, 3d ed, 1881; Critical History of the Principles
of Mechanics ,
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1873, 2d ed., 1877; \_Course of Philosophy\_, 1875 (cf. on Dühring, Helene

Druskowitz, 1889); J. Baumann of Göttingen (born 1837), \_Philosophy as

Orientation concerning the World\_, 1872; \_Handbook of Ethics , 1879;

\_Elements of Philosophy\_, 1891; L. Noiré, \_The Monistic Idea , 1875, and

many other works; Frohschammer of Munich (born 1821), The Phantasy as

the Fundamental Principle of the World-process\_, 1877;
\_On the Genesis

of Humanity, and its Spiritual Development in Religion, Morality and

Language\_, 1883; \_On the Organization and Culture of Human Society , 1885.

In the first rank of the thinkers who have made their appearance since

Hegel and Herbart stand Fechner and Lotze, both masters in the use of exact

methods, yet at the same time with their whole souls devoted to the highest

questions, and superior to their contemporaries in breadth of view as in

the importance and range of their leading ideas--Fechner a dreamer and

sober investigator by turns, Lotze with gentle hand reconciling the

antitheses in life and science.

Gustav Theodor Fechner[1] (1801-87; professor at Leipsic) opposes the

abstract separation of God and the world, which has found a place in

natural inquiry and in theology alike, and brings the two into the same

relation of correspondence and reciprocal reference as the soul and the

body. The spirit gives cohesion to the manifold of material parts, and

needs them as a basis and material for its unifying activity. As our

ego connects the manifold of our activities and states in the unity of

consciousness, so the divine spirit is the supreme unity of consciousness

for all being and becoming. In the spirit of God everything is as in ours,

only expanded and enhanced. Our sensations and feelings, our thoughts and

resolutions are His also, only that He, whose body all nature is, and to

whom not only that which takes place in spirits is open, but also that

which goes on between them, perceives more, feels deeper, thinks higher,

and wills better things than we. According to the analogy of the human

organism, both the heavenly bodies and plants are to be conceived as beings

endowed with souls, although they lack nerves, a brain, and voluntary

motion. How could the earth bring forth living beings, if it were itself

dead? Shall not the flower itself rejoice in the color and fragrance which

it produces, and with which it refreshes us? Though its psychical life may

not exceed that of an infant, its sensations, at all events, since they do

not form the basis of a higher activity, are superior in force and richness

to those of the animal. Thus the human soul stands intermediate in the

scale of psychical life: beneath and about us are the souls of plants and

animals, above us the spirits of the earth and stars, which, sharing in and

encompassing the deeds and destinies of their inhabitants, are in

their turn embraced by the consciousness of the universal spirit. The

omnipresence of the divine spirit affords at the same time the means of

escaping from the desolate "night view" of modern science, which looks upon

the world outside the perceiving individual as dark and silent. No, light

and sound are not merely subjective phenomena within us,

but extend around us with objective reality--as sensations of the divine spirit, to which everything that vibrates resounds and shines.

[Footnote 1: Nanna, or on the Psychical Life of Plants , 1848; Zend-Avesta, or on the Things of Heaven and the World Beyond , 1851; Physical and Philosophical Atomism , 1855; The Three Motives and Grounds of Belief , 1863; The Day View , 1879; Elements of Aesthetics , 1876; Elements of Psycho-physics , 1860; In the Cause of Psycho-physics\_, 1877; Review of the Chief Points in Psycho-physics , 1882; Book of the Life after Death , 1836, 3d ed., 1887; On the Highest Good , 1846; Four Paradoxes , 1846; On the Question of the. Soul , 1861; Minor Works by Dr. Mises (Fechner's pseudonym), 1875. On Fechner cf. J. E. Kuntze, Leipsic, 1892.1

The door of the world beyond also opens to the key of analogy. Similar

laws unite the here with the hereafter. As intuition prepares the way for

memory, and lives on in it, so the life of earth merges in the future life,

and continues active in it, elevated to a higher plane. Fechner treats the

problem of evil in a way peculiar to himself. We must not consider the

fact of evil apart from the effort to remove it. It is the spur to all

activity--without evil, no labor and no progress.

Fechner's "psycho-physics," a science which was founded by him in

continuation of the investigations of Bernoulli, Euler, and especially

of E.H. Weber, wears an entirely different aspect from that of his

metaphysics (the "day view," moreover does not claim to be knowledge,

but belief -- though a belief which is historically, practically, and

theoretically well-grounded). This aims to be an exact science of the

relations between body and mind, and to reach indirectly what Herbart

failed to reach by direct methods, that is, a measurement of psychical

magnitudes, using in this attempt the least observable differences in

sensations as the unit of measure. Weber's law of the dependence of the

intensity of the sensation on the strength of the stimulus--the increase

in the intensity of the sensation remains the same when the relative

increase of the stimulus (or the relation of the stimuli) remains

constant;[1] so that, \_e.g.\_, in the case of light, an
increase from a

stimulus of intensity 1 to one of intensity 100, gives just the same

increase in the intensity of the sensation as an increase from a stimulus

of intensity 2 (or 3) to a stimulus of 200 (or 300)--is much more generally

valid than its discoverer supposed; it holds good for all the senses. In

the case of the pressure sense of the skin, with an original weight of 15

grams (laid upon the hand when at rest and supported), in order to produce

a sensation perceptibly greater we must add not 1 gram, but 5, and with an

original weight of 30 grams, not 5, but 10. Equal additions to the weights

are not enough to produce a sensation of pressure whose intensity shall

render it capable of being distinguished with certainty, but the greater

the original weights the larger the increments must be; while the

intensities of the sensations form an arithmetical,

those of the stimuli

form a geometrical, series; the change in sensation is proportional to the

relative change of the stimulus. Sensations of tone show the same

proportion (3:4) as those of pressure; the sensibility of the muscle sense

is finer (when weights are raised the proportion is 15:16), as also that

of vision (the relative brightness of two lights whose difference of

intensity is just perceptible is 100:101). In addition to the

investigations on the threshold of difference there are others on the

threshold of stimulation (the point at which a sensation becomes just

perceptible), on attention, on methods of measurement, on errors, etc.

Moreover, Fechner does not fail to connect his psychophysics, the

presuppositions and results of which have recently been questioned in

several quarters,[2] with his metaphysical conclusions. Both are pervaded

by the fundamental view that body and spirit belong together (consequently

that everything is endowed with a soul, and that nothing is without a

material basis), nay, that they are the same essence, only seen from

different sides. Body is the (manifold) phenomenon for others, while spirit

is the (unitary) self-phenomenon, in which, however, the inner aspect is

the truer one. That which appears to us as the external world of matter,

is nothing but a universal consciousness which overlaps and influences our

individual consciousness. This is Spinozism idealistically interpreted. In

aesthetics Fechner shows himself an extreme representative of the principle of association.

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[Footnote 1: Fechner teaches: The sensation increases
and diminishes in
proportion to the logarithm of the stimulus and of the
psycho-physical
nervous activity, the latter being directly proportional
to the external
stimulus. Others, on the contrary, find a direct
dependence between nervous
activity and sensation, and a logarithmic proportion
between the external
stimulus and the nervous activity.]
[Footnote 2: So by Helmholtz; Hering (Fechners
psychophysisches Gesetz,
1875); P. Langer (Grundlagen der Psychophysik , 1876);
G.E. Müller in
Göttingen (Zur Grundlegung der Psychophysik , 1878);
F.A. Müller (Das
Axiom der Psychophysik , 1882); A. Elsas (Ueber die
Psychophysik_, 1886);
O. Liebmann (Aphorismen zur Psychologie, Zeitschrift
für Philosophie_,
vol. ci.--Wundt has published a number of papers from
his psycho-physical
laboratory in his Philosophische Studien , 1881 seq .
Cf. also Hugo
Münsterberg, Neue Grundlegung der Psychophysik in
Heft iii. of his
Beiträge zur experimentellen Psychologie , 1889 seg ).
[Further,
Delboeuf, in French, and a growing literature in English
as A. Seth,
Encyclopedia Britannica , vol. xxiv. 469-471; Ladd,
Elements of
Physiological Psychology, part ii. chap, v.; James,
Principles of
Psychology , vol. i. p. 533 seq .; and numerous
articles as Ward,
Mind , vol. i.; Jastrow, American Journal of
Psychology , vols. i. and
iii.--TR.]]
The most important of the thinkers mentioned in the
title of this section
is Rudolph Hermann Lotze (1817-81: born at Bautzen; a
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student of medicine,
and of philosophy under Weisse, in Leipsic; 1844-81
professor in Göttingen;
died in Berlin). Like Fechner, gifted rather with a
talent for the fine and
the suggestive than for the large and the rigorous, with
a greater reserve
than the former before the mystical and peculiar, as
acute, cautious, and
thorough as he was full of taste and loftiness of
spirit, Lotze has proved
that the classic philosophers did not die out with Hegel
and Herbart. His
Microcosmus (3 vols., 1856-64, 4th ed., 1884 seq;
English translation
by Hamilton and Jones, 3d ed., 1888), which is more than
an anthropology,
as it is modestly entitled, and History of Aesthetics
in Germany , 1868,
which also gives more than the title betrays, enjoy a
deserved popularity.
These works were preceded by the Medical Psychology,
1852, and a polemic
treatise against I.H. Fichte, 1857, as well as by a
Pathology and a
_Physiology_, and followed by the _System of
Philosophy , which remained
incomplete (part i. Logic , 1874, 2d ed., 1881, English
translation
edited by Bosanquet, 2d ed., 1888; part ii.
Metaphysics , 1879, English
translation edited by Bosanquet, 2d ed., 1887). Lotze's
Minor Treatises
have been published by Peipers in three volumes (1885-
91); and Rehnisch has
edited eight sets of dictata from his lectures, 1871-
84.[1] Since these
"Outlines," all of which we now have in new editions,
make a convenient
introduction to the Lotzean system, and are, or should
be, in the
possession of all, a brief survey may here suffice.
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[Footnote 1: Outlines of Psychology, Practical

Philosophy, Philosophy of

Religion, Philosophy of Nature, Logic and the Encyclopedia of Philosophy,

Metaphysics, Aesthetics\_, and the \_History of Philosophy since Kant\_, all

of which may be emphatically commended to students, especially the one

first mentioned, and, in spite of its subjective position, the last.

[English translations of these \_Outlines\_ except the fourth and the

last, by Ladd, 1884 \_seq\_.] On Lotze cf. the obituaries by J. Baumann

(\_Philosophische Monatshefte\_, vol. xvii.), H. Sommer
( Im Neuen Reich ),

A. Krohn (\_Zeitschrift für Philosophie\_, vol. lxxxi. pp. 56-93), R.

Falckenberg (Augsburg \_Allgemeine Zeitung\_, 1881, No. 233), and Rehnisch

(\_National Zeitung\_ and the \_Revue Philosophique\_, vol. xii.). The last of

these was reprinted in the appendix to the \_Grundzüge der Aesthetik\_, 1884,

which contains, further, a chronological table of Lotze's works, essays,

and critiques, as well as of his lectures. Hugo Sommer has zealously

devoted himself to the popularization of the Lotzean system. Cf., further,

Fritz Koegel, \_Lotzes Aesthetik\_, Göttingen, 1886, and the article by

Koppelmann referred to above, p. 330.]

The subject of metaphysics is reality. Things which are, events which

happen, relations which exist, representative contents and truths which

are valid, are real. Events happening and relations existing presuppose

existing things as the subjects in and between which they happen and exist.

The being of things is neither their being perceived (for when we say that

a thing is we mean that it continues to be, even when we do not perceive

it), nor a pure, unrelated position, its position in

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general, but to be is
to stand in relations_. Further, the _what_ or essence
of the things which
enter into these relations cannot be conceived as
passive quality, but
only abstractly, as a rule or a law which determines the
connection and
succession of a series of qualities. The nature of
water, for example, is
the unintuitable somewhat which contains the ground of
the change of ice,
first into the liquid condition, and then into steam,
when the temperature
increases, and conversely, of the possibility of
changing steam back
into water and ice under opposite conditions. And when
we speak of an
unchangeable identity of the thing with itself, as a
result of which it
remains the same essence amid the change of its
phenomena, we mean only the
consistency with which it keeps within the closed series
of forms al, a2,
a3, without ever going over into the series b1, b2. The
relations, however,
in which things stand, cannot pass to and fro between
things like threads
or little spirits, but are states in things themselves,
and the change
of the former always implies a change in these inner
states. To stand in
relations means to exchange actions . In order to
experience such effects
from others and to exercise them upon others, things
must neither be wholly
incomparable (as red, hard, sweet) and mutually
indifferent, nor yet
absolutely independent; if the independence of
individual beings were
complete the process of action would be entirely
inconceivable. The
difficulty in the concept of causality -- how does being
a come to produce
in itself a different state a because another being
b enters into the
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state [Greek: \_b\_]?--is removed only when we look on the things as

modes, states, parts of a single comprehensive being, of an infinite,

unconditioned substance, in so far as there is then only an action of

the absolute on itself. Nevertheless the assumption that, in virtue of

the unity and consistency of the absolute or of its impulse to

self-preservation, state [Greek: \_b\_] in being \_b\_
follows state

[Greek: \_a\_] in being \_a\_ as an accommodation or compensation follows a

disturbance, is not a full explanation of the process of action, does

not remove the difficulty as to how one state can give rise to another.

Metaphysics is, in general, unable to show how reality is made, but only to

remove certain contradictions which stand in the way of the conceivability

of these notions. The so far empty concept of an absolute looks to the

philosophy of religion for its content; the conception of the Godhead as

infinite personality (it is a person in a far higher sense than we) is

first produced when we add to the ontological postulate of a comprehensive

substance the ethical postulate of a supreme good or a universal world-Idea.

By "thing" we understand the permanent unit-subject of changing states. But

the fact of consciousness furnishes the only guaranty that the different

states \_a, [Greek: b], y\_, are in reality states of one being, and not so

many different things alternating with one another. Only a conscious

being, which itself effects the distinction between itself and the states

occurring in it, and in memory and recollection feels

and knows itself as

their identical subject, is actually a subject which has states. Hence,

if things are to be real, we must attribute to them a nature in essence

related to that of our soul. Reality is existence for self. All beings

are spiritual, and only spiritual beings possess true reality. Thus Lotze

combines the monadology of Leibnitz with the pantheism of Spinoza, just

as he understands how to reconcile the mechanical view of natural science

(which is valid also for the explanation of organic life) with the

teleology and the ethical idealism of Fichte. The sole mission of the

world of forms is to aid in the realization of the ideal purposes of the

absolute, of the world of values.

The ideality of space, which Kant had based on insufficient grounds, is

maintained by Lotze also, only that he makes things stand in "intellectual"

relations, which the knowing subject translates into spatial language. The

same character of subjectivity belongs not only to our sensations, but

also to our ideas concerning the connection of things. Representations are

results, not copies, of the external stimuli; cognition comes under the

general concept of the interaction of real elements, and depends, like

every effect, as much upon the nature of the being that experiences the

effect as upon the nature of the one which exerts it, or rather, more upon

the former than upon the latter. If, nevertheless, it claims objective

reality, truth must not be interpreted as the correspondence of thought and

its object (the cognitive image can never be like the thing itself), nor

the mission of cognition, made to consist in copying a world already

finished and closed apart from the realm of spirits, to which mental

representation is added as something accessory. Light and sound are not

therefore illusions because they are not true copies of the waves of ether

and of air from which they spring, but they are the end which nature has

sought to attain through these motions, an end, however, which it cannot

attain alone, but only by acting upon spiritual subjects; the beauty and

splendor of colors and tones are that which of right ought to be in the

world; without the new world of representations awakened in spirits by the

action of external stimuli, the world would lack its essential culmination.

The purpose of things is to be known, experienced, and enjoyed by spirits.

The truth of cognition consists in the fact that it opens up the meaning

and destination of the world. That which ought to be is the ground of that

which is; that which is exists in order to the realization of values in

it; the good is the only real. It is true that we are not permitted to

penetrate farther than to the general conviction that the Idea of the good

is the ground and end of the world; the question, how the world has arisen

from this supreme Idea as from the absolute and why just this world with

its determinate forms and laws has arisen, is unanswerable. We understand

the meaning of the play, but we do not see the machinery by which it is

produced at work behind the stage. In ethics Lotze emphasizes with Fechner

the inseparability of the good and pleasure: it is impossible to state in

what the worth or goodness of a good is to consist, if

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it be conceived out
of all relation to a spirit capable of finding enjoyment
in it.
If Lotze's philosophy harmoniously combines Herbartian
and Fichteo-Hegelian
elements, Eduard von Hartmann (born 1842; until 1864 a
soldier, now a man
of letters in Berlin) aims at a synthesis of
Schopenhauer and Hegel; with
the pessimism of the former he unites the evolutionism
of the latter, and
while the one conceives the nature of the world-ground
as irrational will,
and the other as the logical Idea, he follows the
example of Schelling
in his later days by making will and representation
equally legitimate
attributes of his absolute, the Unconscious. His
principal theoretical
work, The Philosophy of the Unconscious , 1869 (10th
ed., 1891; English
translation by Coupland, 1884), was followed in 1879 by
his chief ethical
one, The Moral Consciousness (2d ed., 1886, in the
Selected Works ); the
two works on the philosophy of religion, The Religious
Consciousness of
Humanity in the Stages of its Development , 1881, and
The Religion of
Spirit , 1882, together form the third chief work ( The
Self-Disintegration
of Christianity and the Religion of the Future , 1874,
and The Crisis of
Christianity in Modern Theology , 1880, are to be
regarded as forerunners
of this); the fourth is the Aesthetics (part i.
German Aesthetics since
Kant_, 1886; part ii. Philosophy of the Beautiful ,
1887). The Collected
Studies and Essays , 1876, were preceded by two
treatises on the philosophy
of nature, Truth and Error in Darwinism , 1875, and
 The Unconscious
from the Standpoint of Physiology and the Theory of
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Descent , published
anonymously in 1872, in the latter of which, disguised
as a Darwinian,
he criticises his own philosophy. Of his more recent
publications we may
mention the Philosophical Questions of the Day , 1885;
Modern Problems ,
1886; and the controversial treatise Lotzes
Philosophy , 1888.[1]
[Footnote 1: On Hartmann cf. Volkelt in Nord und Süd,
July, 1881; the
same, Das Unbewusste und der Pessimismus, 1873;
Vaihinger, Hartmann,
Dühring und Lange , 1876; R. Koeber, Das
philosophische System Ed.
v, Hartmann , 1884; O. Pfleiderer, critique of the
Phänomenologie des
sittlichen Bewusstseins (Im neuen Reich), 1879; L. von
Golther, Der
moderne Pessimismus , 1878; J. Huber, Der Pessimismus ,
1876; Weygoldt,
Kritik des philosophischen Pessimismus der neuesten
Zeit , 1875; M.
Venetianer, Der Allgeist , 1874; A Taubert (Hartmann's
first wife),
Der Pessimismus und seine Gegner , 1873; O. Plümacher,
Der Kampf ums
Unbewusste (with a chronological table of Hartmann
literature appended),
1881; the same, Der Pessimismus in Vergangenheit und
Gegenwart , 1884;
Krohn, _Streifzüge_ (see above); Seydel (see above).
During the year
1882 four publications appeared under the title Der
Pessimismus und die
Sittenlehre , by Bacmeister, Christ, Rehmke, and H.
Sommer (2d ed., 1883).
[English translation of Truth and Error in Darwinism
in the Journal
of Speculative Philosophy , vols. xi.-xiii., and of The
Religion of the
Future , by Dare, 1886; cf. also Sully's Pessimism ,
chap. v.--TR.]]
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In polemical relation, on the one hand, to the naïve realism of life,

and, on the other, to the subjective idealism of Kant, or rather of

the neo-Kantians, the logical conclusion of which would be absolute

illusionism, Hartmann founds his "transcendental realism," which mediates

between these two points of view (the existence and true nature of the

world outside our representations is knowable, if only indirectly; the

forms of knowledge, in spite of their subjective origin, have a more

than subjective, a transcendental, significance) by pointing out that

sense-impressions, which are accompanied by the feeling of compulsion and

are different from one another, cannot be explained from the ego, but only

by the action of things in themselves external to us,
\_i.e.\_, independent

of consciousness, and themselves distinct from one another. The causality

of things in themselves is the bridge which enables us to cross the gulf

between the immanent world of representations and the transcendent world of

being. The causality of things in themselves proves their reality, their

difference at different times, their changeability and their temporal

character; change, however, demands something permanent, existence, an

existing, unchangeable, supra-temporal, and non-spatial substance (whether

a special substance for each thing in itself or a common one for all, is

left for the present undetermined). My action upon the thing in itself

assures me of its causal conditionality or necessity; the various

affections of the same sense, that there are many things in themselves; the

peculiar form of change shown by some bodies, that

these, like my body, are united with a soul. Thus it is evident that, besides the concept of cause, a series of other categories must be applied to the thing in itself, hence applied transcendentally.

The "speculative results" obtained by Hartmann on an "inductive" basis are as follows: The per se (Ansich) of the empirical world is the Unconscious. The two attributes of this absolute are the groundless, alogical, infinite will, and the passive, finite representation (Idea); the former is the ground of the that of the world, the latter the ground of its purposive what and how . Without the will the representation, which in itself is without energy, could not become real, and without the representation (of an end) the will, which in itself is without reason, could not become a definite willing (relative or immanent dualism of the attributes, a necessary moment in absolute monism). The empirical preponderance of pain over pleasure, which can be shown by calculation,[1] proves that the world is evil, that its non-existence were better than its existence; the purposiveness everywhere perceptible in nature and the progress of history toward a final goal (it is true, a negative one) proves, nevertheless, that it is the best world that was possible (reconciliation of eudemonistic pessimism with evolutionistic optimism). The creation of the world begins when the blind will to live groundlessly and fortuitously passes over from essence to phenomenon, from

potency to act, from supra-existence to existence, and,

in irrational

striving after existence, draws to itself the only content which is capable

of realization, the logical Idea. This latter seeks to make good the

error committed by the will by bringing consciousness into the field as

a combatant against the insatiable, ever yearning, never satisfied will,

which one day will force the will back into latency, into the (antemundane)

blessed state of not-willing. The goal of the world-development is

deliverance from the misery of existence, the peace of non-existence, the

return from the will and representation, become spatial and temporal, to

the original, harmonious equilibrium of the two functions, which has been

disturbed by the origin of the world or to the antemundane identity of the

absolute. The task of the logical element is to teach consciousness more

and more to penetrate the illusion of the will--in its three stages of

childlike (Greek) expectation of happiness to be attained here, youthful

(Christian) expectation of happiness to be attained hereafter, and

adult expectation of happiness to be attained in the future of the

world-development--and, finally, to teach it to know, in senile longing

after rest, that only the doing away with this miserable willing, and,

consequently, with earthly existence (through the resolve of the majority

of mankind) can give the sole attainable blessedness, freedom from pain.

The world-process is the incarnation, the suffering, and the redemption

of the absolute; the moral task of man is not personal renunciation and

cowardly retirement, but to make the purposes of the Unconscious his own,

with complete resignation to life and its sufferings to

labor energetically

in the world-process, and, by the vigorous promotion of consciousness, to

hasten the fulfillment of the redemptive purpose; the condition of morality

is insight into the fruitlessness of all striving after pleasure and into

the essential unity of all individual beings with one another and with the

universal spirit, which exists in the individuals, but at the same time

subsists above them. "To know one's self as of divine nature, this does

away with all divergence between selfwill and universal will, with all

estrangement between man and God, with all undivine, that is, merely natural, conduct."

[Footnote 1: Cf. Volkelt, \_Ueber die Lust als höchsten Werthmassstab

(in the \_Zeitschrift für Philosophie\_, vol. lxxxviii.), 1886, and O.

Pfleiderer, \_Philosophy of Religion\_, vol. ii. p. 249 \_seq\_.]

Religion, which, in common with philosophy, has for its basis the

metaphysical need for, or the mystical feeling of, the unity of the human

individual and the world-ground, needs transformation, since in its

traditional forms it is opposed to modern culture, and the merging of

religion (as a need of the heart) in metaphysics is impossible. The

religion of the future, for which the way has already been prepared by the

speculative Protestantism of the present, is \_concrete
monism\_ (the divine

unity is transcendent as well as immanent in the plurality of the beings of

earth, every moral man a God-man), which includes in itself the abstract

monism (pantheism) of the Indian religions and the

Judeo-Christian (mono-)

theism as subordinate moments. (The original henotheism and its decline

into polytheism, demonism, and fetichism was followed by--Egyptian and

Persian, as well as Greek, Roman, and German-naturalism, and then by

supernaturalism in its monistic and its theistic form. The chief defect of

the Christian religion is the transcendentaleudemonistic heteronomy of its

ethics.) The \_Religion of Spirit\_ divides into three parts. The psychology

of religion considers the religious function in its subjective aspect,

faith as a combined act of representation, feeling, and will, in which one

of these three elements may predominate--though feeling forms the inmost

kernel of the theoretical and practical activities as well--and, as

the objective correlate of faith, grace (revealing, redeeming, and

sanctifying), which elevates man above peripheral and phenomenal dependence

on the world, and frees him from it, through his becoming conscious of his

central and metaphysical dependence upon God. The metaphysics of religion

(in theological, anthropological, and cosmological sections) proves

by induction from the facts of religion the existence, omnipotence,

spirituality, omniscience, righteousness, and holiness of the All-one,

which coincides with the moral order of the world. Further, it proves the

need and the capacity of man for redemption from guilt and evil--here three

spheres of the individual will are distinguished, one beneath God, one

contrary to God, and one conformable to God, or a natural, an evil, and a

moral sphere--and, preserving alike the absoluteness of God and the reality

of the world, shows that it is not so much man as God himself, who, as the

bearer of all the suffering of the world, is the subject of redemption.

The ethics of religion discusses the subjective and objective processes of

redemption, namely, repentance and amendment on the part of the individual

and the ecclesiastical \_cultus\_ of the future, which is to despise symbols and art.

It is to Hartmann's credit, though the fact has not been sufficiently

appreciated by professional thinkers, that in a time averse to speculation

he has devoted his energies to the highest problems of metaphysics, and in

their elaboration has approached his task with scientific earnestness and

a comprehensive and thorough consideration of previous results. Thus

the critique of ethical standpoints in the historical part of the

\_Phenomenology of the Moral Consciousness\_, especially, contains much that

is worthy of consideration; and his fundamental metaphysical idea, that the

absolute is to be conceived as the unity of will and reason, also deserves

in general a more lively assent than has been accorded to it, while his

rejection of an infinite consciousness has justly met with contradiction.

It has been impossible here to go into his discussions in the philosophy of

nature--they cannot be described in brief--on matter
(atomic forces), on

the mechanical and teleological views of life and its development, on

instinct, on sexual love, etc., which he very skillfully uses in support of

his metaphysical principle.

- %3. From the Revival of the Kantian Philosophy to the Present Time.%
- %(a) Neo-Kantianism, Positivism, and Kindred
  Phenomena.%--The Kantian

philosophy has created two epochs: one at the time of its appearance, and

a second two generations after the death of its author. The new Kantian

movement, which is one of the most prominent characteristics of the

philosophy of the present time, took its beginning a quarter of a century

ago. It is true that even before 1865 individual thinkers like Ernst

Reinhold of Jena (died 1855), the admirer of Fries, J.B. Meyer of Bonn,

K.A. von Reichlin-Meldegg, and others had sought a point of departure for

their views in Kant; that K. Fischer's work on Kant (1860) had given a

lively impulse to the renewed study of the critical philosophy; nay, that

the cry "Back to Kant" had been expressly raised by Fortlage (as early as

1832 in his treatise \_The Gaps in the Hegelian System\_), and by Zeller

(p. 589). But the movement first became general after F.A. Lange in his

\_History of Materialism\_ had energetically advocated the Kantian doctrine

according to his special conception of it, after Helmholtz[1] (born 1821)

had called attention to the agreement of the results of physiology with

those of the Critique of Reason, and at the same time Liebmann's youthful

work, \_Kant and the Epigones\_, in which every chapter ended with the

inexorable refrain, "therefore we must go back to Kant," had given the

strongest expression to the longing of the time.

[Footnote 1: Helmholtz: \_On Human Vision\_, 1855; Physiological Optics\_,

1867; \_Sensations of Tone\_, 1863, 4th ed., 1877 [English translation by Ellis, 2d ed., 1885].]

Otto Liebmann (cf. also the chapter on "The Metamorphoses of the A Priori"

in his \_Analysis of Reality\_) sees the fundamental truth of criticism in

the irrefutable proof that, space, time, and the categories are functions

of the intellect, and that subject and object are necessary correlates,

inseparable factors of the empirical world, and finds Kant's fundamental

error, which the Epigones have not corrected, but made still worse, in the

non-concept of the thing in itself, which must be expelled from the Kantian

philosophy as a remnant of dogmatism, as a drop of alien blood, and as an

illegitimate invader which has debased it.

According to Friedrich Albert Lange[1] (1828-75; during the last years

of his life professor at Marburg), materialism, which is unfruitful and

untenable as a principle, a system, and a view of the world, but useful

and indispensable as a method and a maxim of investigation, must be

supplemented by formal idealism, which, rejecting all science from mere

reason limits knowledge to the sensuous, to that which can be experienced,

yet at the same time conceives the formal element in the sense world as the

product of the organization of man, and hence makes objects conform to our

representations. Above the sensuous world of experience and of mechanical

becoming, however, the speculative impulse to construction, rounding off

the fragmentary truth of the sciences into a unified picture of the whole

truth, rears the ideal world of that which ought to be.

Notwithstanding

their indefeasible certitude, the Ideas possess no scientific truth, though

they have a moral value which makes them more than mere fabrics of the

brain: man is framed not merely for the knowledge of truth, but also for

the realization of values. But since the significance of the Ideas is

only practical, and since determinations of value are not grounds

of explanation, science and metaphysics or "concept poetry"

( Begriffsdichtung ) must be kept strictly separate.

[Footnote 1: F.A. Lange: \_Logical Studies\_, 1877. Cf. M. Heinze in the

\_Vierteljahrsschrift für wissenschaftliche Philosophic\_, 1877, and

Vaihinger in the work cited above, p. 610 note.]

Friedrich Paulsen of Berlin (born in 1846; cf. pp. 330, 332, note) sees in

the Kantian philosophy the foundation for the philosophy of the future.  ${\tt A}$ 

profounder Wolff (the self-dominion of the reason), a
Prussian Hume (the

categories of the understanding are not world-categories; rejection of

anthropomorphic metaphysics), and a German Rousseau (the primacy of the

will, consideration of the demands of the heart; the good will alone, not

deeds nor culture, constitutes the worth of man; freedom, the rights of

man) in one person, Kant has withdrawn from scientific discussion the

question concerning the dependence of reality on values or the good,

which is theoretically insoluble but practically to be answered in the

affirmative, and given it over to faith. Kant is in so far a positivist

that he limits the mission of knowledge to the reduction of the

temporo-spatial relations of phenomena to rules, and declares the

teleological power of values to be undemonstrable. But science is able

to prove this much, that the belief in a suprasensible world, in the

indestructibility of that which alone has worth, and in the freedom of

the intelligible character, which the will demands, is not scientifically

impossible. Since, according to formal rationalism, the whole order of

nature is a creation of the understanding, and hence atomism and mechanism

are only forms of representation, valid, no doubt, for our peripheral point

of view, but not absolutely valid, since, further, the empirical view of

the world apart from the Idea of the divine unity of the world (which, it

is true, is incapable of theoretical realization) would lack completion,

the immediate conviction of the heart in regard to the power of the good is

in no danger of attack from the side of science, although this can do no

further service for faith than to remove the obstacles which oppose it. The

will, not the intellect, determines the view of the world; but this is only

a belief, and in the world of representation, the intelligible world, with

which the will brings us into relation, can come before us only in the form

of symbols.--While Albrecht Krause (\_The Laws of the Human Heart, a Formal

Logic of Pure Feeling\_, 1876) and A. Classen (Physiology of the Sense of

Sight\_, 1877) are strict followers of Kant, J. Volkelt (\_Analysis of the

Fundamental Principles of Kant's Theory of Knowledge\_, 1879) has traced the

often deplored inconsistencies and contradictions in Kant down to their

roots, and has shown that in Kant's thinking, which has

hitherto been

conceived as too simple and transparent, but which, in fact, is extremely

complicated and struggling in the dark, a number of entirely heterogeneous

principles of thought (skeptical, subjectivistic, metaphysico-work,

rationalistic, \_a priori\_, and practical motives) are at which, conflicting

with and crippling one another, make the attainment of harmonious results

impossible. Benno Erdmann (p. 330) and Hans Vaihinger (pp. 323 note, 331)

have given Kant's principal works careful philological interpretation.

Among the various differences of opinion which exist within the neo-Kantian

ranks, the most important relates to the question, whether the individual

ego or a transcendental consciousness is to be looked upon as the executor

of the \_a priori\_ functions. In agreement with Schopenhauer and with Lotze,

who makes the subjectivity of space, time, and the pure concepts parallel

with that of the sense qualities, Lange teaches that the human individual

is so organized that he must apprehend that which is sensuously given under

these forms. Others, on the contrary, urge that the individual soul with

its organization is itself a phenomenon, and consequently cannot be the

bearer of that which precedes phenomena--space, time, and the categories

as "conditions" of experience are functions of a pure consciousness to be

presupposed. The antithesis of subject and object, the soul and the world,

first arises in the sphere of phenomena. The empirical subject, like the

world of objects, is itself a product of the \_a priori\_ forms, hence not

that which produces them. To the transcendental group

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belong Hermann
Cohen[1] in Marburg, A. Stadler[2], Natorp, Lasswitz
(p.17), E. König (p.
17), Koppelmann (p. 330), Staudinger (p. 331). Fritz
Schultze of Dresden is
also to be counted among the neo-Kantians ( Philosophy
of Natural Science_,
1882; Kant and Darwin , 1875; The Fundamental Thoughts
of Materialism ,
1881; The Fundamental Thoughts of Spiritualism , 1883;
Comparative
Psychology , i. 1, 1892).
[Footnote 1: Cohen: Kant's Theory of Experience , 1871,
2d ed., 1886;
Kant's Foundation of Ethics , 1877; Kant's Foundation
of Aesthetics ,
1889.
[Footnote 2: Stadler: Kant's Teleology , 1874; The
Principles of the Pure
Theory of Knowledge in the Kantian Philosophy , 1876;
Kant's Theory of
Matter , 1883.]
The German positivists[1]:--E. Laas of Strasburg (1837-
85), A. Riehl
of Freiburg in Baden (born 1844), and R. Avenarius of
Zurich (born
1843) -- develop their sensationalistic theory of
knowledge in critical
connection with Kant. Ernst Laas defines positivism
(founded by Protagoras,
advocated in modern times by Hume and J.S. Mill, and
hostile to Platonic
idealism) as that philosophy which recognizes no other
foundations than
positive facts (_i.e._, perceptions), and requires every
opinion to exhibit
the experiences on which it rests. Its basis is
constituted by three
articles of belief: (1) The correlative facts, subject
and object, exist
and arise only in connection (objects are directly known
only as the
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contents of a consciousness, _cui objecta sunt_,
subjects only as centers
of relation, as the scene or foundation of a
representative content, _cui
subjecta sunt : outside my thoughts body does not exist
as body, nor I
myself as soul). (2) The variability of the objects of
perception. (3)
Sensationalism--all specific differences in
consciousness must be conceived
as differences in degree, all higher mental processes
and states, including
thought, as the perceptions and experiences, transformed
according to
law, of beings which feel, have wants, possess memory,
and are capable of
spontaneous motion. The subject coincides with its
feeling of pleasure and
pain, from which sensation is distinguished by its
objective content. The
illusions of metaphysics are scientifically untenable
and practically
unnecessary. Various yearnings, wants, presentiments,
hopes, and fancies,
it is true, lead beyond the sphere of that which can be
checked by sense
and experience, but for none of their positions can any
sufficient proof be
adduced. As physics has discarded transcendent causes
and learned how to
get along with immanent causes, so ethics also must
endeavor to establish
the worth of moral good without excursions into the
suprasensible. The
ethical obligations arise naturally from human
relations, from earthly
needs. The third volume of Laas's work differs from the
earlier ones by
conceding the rank of facts to the principles of logic
as well as to
perception. Aloys Riehl opposes the theory of knowledge
(which starts from
the fundamental fact of sensation) as scientific
philosophy to metaphysics
as unscientific, and banishes the doctrine of the
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practical ideals from the realm of science into the region of religion and art. Richard Avenarius defends the principle of "pure experience." Sensation, which is all that is left as objectively given after the removal of the subjective additions, constitutes the content, and motion the form of being. [Footnote 1: Laas: Idealism and Positivism , 1879-84. Riehl: Philosophical Criticism , 1876-87; Address On Scientific and Unscientific Philosophy, 1883. Avenarius (p. 598): Philosophy as Thought concerning the World according to the Principle of Least Work , 1876; Critique of Pure Experience , vol. i. 1888, vol. ii. 1890; Man's Concept of the World\_, 1891. C. Göring (died 1879; \_System of Critical Philosophy , 1875) may also be placed here.] With the neo-Kantians and the positivists there is associated, thirdly, a coherent group of noëtical thinkers, who, rejecting extramental elements of every kind, look on all conceivable being as merely a conscious content. This monism of consciousness is advocated by W. Schuppe of Greifswald (born 1836; Noëtical Logic , 1878), J. Rehmke, also of Greifswald ( The World as Percept and Concept , 1880; "The Question of the Soul" in vol. ii. of the Zeitschrift für Psychologie , 1891), A. von Leclair ( Contributions to a Monistic Theory of Knowledge , 1882), and R. von Schubert-Soldern ( Foundations of a Theory of Knowledge , 1884; On the Transcendence of Object and Subject , 1882; Foundations for an Ethics\_, 1887). J. Bergmann[1] in Marburg (born 1840) occupies a kindred position.

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[Footnote 1: Bergmann: _Outlines of a Theory of
Consciousness , 1870; Pure
Logic_, 1879; _Being and Knowing_, 1880; _The
Fundamental Problems of
Logic_, 1882; On the Right , 1883; Lectures on
Metaphysics , 1886; On
the Beautiful , 1887; History of Philosophy , vol. i.,
Pre-Kantian
Philosophy , 1892.]
It is the same scientific spirit of the time, which in
the fifties led many
who were weary of the idealistic speculations over to
materialism, that now
secures such wide dissemination and so widespread favor
for the endeavors
of the neo-Kantians and the positivists or neo-
Baconians, who desire to see
metaphysics stricken from the list of the sciences and
replaced by noëtics,
and the theory of the world relegated to faith. The
philosophy of the
present, like the pre-Socratic philosophy and the
philosophy of the early
modern period, wears the badge of physics. The world is
conceived from the
standpoint of nature, psychical phenomena are in part
neglected, in part
see their inconvenient claims reduced to a minimum,
while it is but rarely
that we find an appreciation of their independence and
co-ordinate value,
not to speak of their superior position. The power which
natural science
has gained over philosophy dates essentially from a
series of famous
discoveries and theories, by which science has opened up
entirely new and
wide outlooks, and whose title to be considered in the
formation of a
general view of reality is incontestable. To mention
only the most
prominent, the following have all posited important and
far-reaching
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problems for philosophy as well as for science: Johannes
Müller's (Müller
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died 1858) theory of the specific energies of the senses, which Helmholtz

made use of as an empirical confirmation of the Kantian apriorism; the law

of the conservation of energy discovered by Robert Mayer (1842, 1850;

Helmholtz, 1847, 1862), and, in particular, the law of the transformation

of heat into motion, which invited an examination of all the forces active

in the world to test their mutual convertibility; the extension of

mechanism to the vital processes, favored even by Lotze; the renewed

conflict between atomism and dynamism; further, the Darwinian theory[1]

(1859), which makes organic species develop from one another by natural

selection in the struggle for existence (through inheritance and

adaptation); finally, the meta-geometrical speculations[2] of Gauss (1828),

Riemann (\_On the Hypotheses which lie at the Basis of Geometry\_, 1854,

published in 1867), Helmholtz (1868), B. Erdmann (\_The Axioms of Geometry ,

1877). G. Cantor, and others, which look on our Euclidean space of three

dimensions as a special case of the unintuitable yet thinkable analytic

concept of a space of  $_n\_$  dimensions. The circumstance that these theories

are still largely hypothetical in their own field appears to have stirred

up rather than moderated the zeal for carrying them over into other

departments and for applying them to the world as a whole. Thus,

especially, the Darwinians[3] have undauntedly attempted to utilize the

biological hypothesis of the master as a philosophical principle of the

world, and to bring the mental sciences under the point

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of view of the
mechanical theory of development, though thus far with
more daring and
noise than success. The finely conceived ethics of
Höffding (p. 585) is an
exception to the rule which is the object of this
remark.
[Footnote 1: A critical exposition of the modern
doctrine of development
and of the causes used to explain it is given by Otto
Hamann,
Entwickelungslehre und Darwinismus , Jena, 1892. Cf.
also, O. Liebmann,
Analysis der Wirklichkeit; and Ed. von Hartmann
(above, p. 610). [Among
the numerous works in English the reader may be referred
to the article
"Evolution," by Huxley and Sully, \_Encyclopedia
Britannica_, 9th ed., vol.
viii.; Wallace's Darwinism , 1889; Romanes, Darwin and
after Darwin_,
i. The Darwinian Theory , 1892; and Conn's Evolution
of To-day,
1886.--TR.]]
[Footnote 2: Cf. Liebmann, Analysis der Wirklichkeit,
2d ed., pp. 53-59.
G. Frege ( Begriffsschrift , 1879; The Foundations of
Arithmetic_, 1884;
Function and Concept , 1891; "On Sense and Meaning" in
the Zeitschrift
für Philosophie, vol. c. 1892) has also chosen the
region intermediate
between mathematics and philosophy for his field of
work. We note, further,
E.G. Husserl, Philosophy of Arithmetic, vol. i.,
1891.
[Footnote 3: Ernst Haeckel of Jena (born 1834; General
Morphology , 1866;
Natural History of Creation , 1868 [English, 1875] I
_Anthropogeny_, 1874;
Aims and Methods of the Development History of To-day,
1875; Popular
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Lectures_, 1878 seq .--English, 1883), G. Jäger, A.
Schleicher (The
Darwinian Theory and the Science of Language , 1865),
Ernst Krause
(Carus Sterne, the editor of Kosmos ) O. Caspari,
Carneri ( Morals and
Darwinism , 1871), O. Schmidt, Du Prel, Paul Rée ( The
Origin of the Moral
Feelings , 1877; The Genesis of Conscience , 1885; The
Illusion of Free
Will , 1885); G.H. Schneider ( The Animal Will , 1880;
The Human Will ,
1882; The Good and III of the Human Race , 1883).
Besides the theory of knowledge, in the elaboration of
which the most
eminent naturalists[1] participate with acuteness and
success, psychology
and the practical disciplines also betray the influence
of the scientific
spirit. While sociology and ethics, following the
English model, seek an
empirical basis and begin to make philosophical use of
statistical results
(E.F. Schäffle, Frame and Life of the Social Body, new
ed., 1885; A. von
Oettingen, Moral Statistic in its Significance for a
Social Ethics , 3d
ed., 1882), psychology endeavors to attain exact results
in regard to
psychical life and its relation to its physical basis --
besides Fechner and
the Herbartians, W. Wundt and A. Horwicz should be
mentioned here. Wundt
and, of late, Haeckel go back to the Spinozistic
parallelism of material
and psychical existence, only that the latter emphasizes
merely the
inseparability (Nichtohneeinander) of the two sides
(the cell-body and
the cell-soul) with a real difference between them and a
metaphysical
preponderance of the material side, while the former
emphasizes the
essential unity of body and soul, and the higher reality
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of the spiritual side.

[Footnote 1: Helmholtz, Virchow (born 1821), Zöllner (1834-82; On the Nature of Comets\_, 1872), and Du Bois-Reymond (born 1818), who, in his lectures On the Limits of the Knowledge of Nature, 1872, and The Seven World-riddles , 1880 (both together in 1882, and reprinted in the first series of his Addresses , 1886), looks on the origin of life, the purposive order of nature, and thought as problems soluble in the future, but declares, on the other hand, that the nature of matter (atoms) and force (actio in distant), the origin of motion, the genesis of consciousness (of sensation, together with pleasure and pain) from the knowable conditions of psychical life, and the freedom of the will, are absolute limits to our knowledge of nature.]

%(b) Idealistic Reaction against the Scientific Spirit.%--In opposition to

the preponderance of natural science and the empiricoskeptical tendency of

the philosophy of the day conditioned by it, an idealistic counter-movement

is making itself increasingly felt as the years go on. Wilhelm Dilthey[1]

abandons metaphysics as a basis, it is true, but (with the assent of

Gierke, \_Preussische Jahrbücher\_, vol. liii. 1884) declares against the

transfer of the method of natural science to the mental sciences, which

require a special foundation. In spite of his critical rejection of

metaphysics, Wilhelm Windelband in Strasburg (born 1848;
\_Preludes\_, 1884)

is, like Dilthey, to be counted among the idealists. In opposition to the

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individualism of the positivists, the folk-
psychologists--at their head
Steinthal and Lazarus (p. 536); Gustav Glogau[2] in Kiel
(born 1844) is
an adherent of the same movement--defend the power of
the universal over
individual spirits. The spirit of the people is not a
phrase, an empty
name, but a real force, not the sum of the individuals
belonging to the
people, but an encompassing and controlling power, which
brings forth
in the whole body processes (_e.g._, language) which
could not occur in
individuals as such. It is only as a member of society
that anyone becomes
truly man; the community is the subject of the higher
life of spirit.
[Footnote 1: Dilthey: _Introduction to the Mental
Sciences , part i.,
1883; Poetic Creation in the Zeller Aufsätze, 1887;
"Contributions to
the Solution of the Question of the Origin of our Belief
in the Reality of
the External World, and its Validity,"
Sitzungsberichte of the Berlin
Academy of Sciences, 1890; "Conception and Analysis of
Man in the
Fifteenth and Sixteenth Centuries" in the Archiv für
Geschichte der
Philosophie , vols. iv., v., 1891-92.
[Footnote 2: Glogau: Sketch of the Fundamental
Philosophical Sciences
(part i., The Form and the Laws of Motion of the
Spirit , 1880; part
ii., The Nature and the Fundamental Forms of Conscious
Spirit , 1888);
Outlines of Psychology; 1884.
If folk-psychology, whose title but imperfectly
expresses the comprehensive
endeavor to construct a psychology of society or of the
universal spirit,
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is, as it were, an empirical confirmation of Hegel's theory of Objective

Spirit, Rudolf Eucken[1] (born 1846), pressing on in the Fichtean manner

from the secondary facts of consciousness to an original real-life,

endeavors to solve the question of a universal becoming, of an

all-pervasive force, of a supporting unity ("totality") in the life of

spirit (neither in a purely noëtical nor a purely metaphysical, but) in a

noölogical way, and demands that the fundamental science or doctrine of

principles direct its attention not to cognition by itself, but to the

activity of psychical life as a whole.

[Footnote 1: Eucken: \_The Unity of Spiritual Life in the Consciousness and

Deeds of Humanity\_, 1888; \_Prolegomena\_ to this, 1885. A detailed analysis

of the latter by Falckenberg is given in the \_Zeitschrift für Philosophie\_, vol. xc, 1887; cf. above, pp. 17 and 610.]

We have electhore diagraged the more regent attempt

We have elsewhere discussed the more recent attempts to establish a

metaphysic which shall be empirically well grounded and shall cautiously

rise from facts.[1] In regard to the possibility of metaphysics three

parties are to be distinguished: On the left, the positivists, the

neo-Kantians, and the monists of consciousness, who deny it out of hand. On

the right, a series of philosophers--e.g., adherents of Hegel, Herbart, and

Schopenhauer--who, without making any concessions to the modern theory of

knowledge, hold fast to the possibility of a speculative metaphysics of the

old type. In the center, a group of thinkers who are willing to renounce

neither a solid noëtical foundation nor the attainment

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of metaphysical conclusions—so Eduard von Hartmann, Wundt,[2] Eucken, Volkelt (pp. 590, 617). Otto Liebmann (born 1840; _On the Analysis of Reality_, 1876, 2d ed., 1880; Thoughts and Facts , Heft i. 1882) demands a
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sharp separation between the certain and the uncertain and an exact

estimation of the degree of probability which theories possess; puts the principles of metaphysics

under the rubric of logical hypothesis; and, in his Climax of the

Theories\_, 1884, calls attention to the fact that experiential science, in

addition to axioms necessarily or apodictically certain and empeiremes

possessing actual or assertory certainty, needs, further, a number of

"interpolation maxims," which form an attribute of our type of intellectual

organization \_(i.e.\_, principles, according to the standard of which we

supplement the fragmentary and discrete series of single perceptions and

isolated observations by the interpolation of the needed intermediate

links, so that they form a connected experience). The most important of

these maxims are the principles of real identity, of the continuity of

existence, of causality, and of the continuity of becoming. Experience is

a gift of the understanding; the premises, as a rule, latent in ordinary

consciousness, on whose anticipatory application our experience is based

throughout, assert something absolutely incapable of being experienced.

If, in order to the production of a "pure experience," we eliminate all

subjective additions of the understanding contained in experiential thought

(all that cannot be present at the moment or locally at hand, in short, all

that cannot be the direct object and content of actual observation),

this breaks up into an unordered, unconnected aggregate of discontinuous

perceptual fragments; in order that a complete and articulated condition

of experience may result, these fragments (the purely factual content of

observation, the incoherent matter of perception) must be supplemented and

connected by very much that is not observed.

1890.1

[Footnote 1: R. Falckenberg, \_Ueber die gegenwärtige Lage der deutschen Philosophie\_, inaugural address at Erlangen, Leipsic,

[Footnote 2: Wundt: \_Essays\_, 1885, including "Philosophy and Science";
\_System of Philosophy\_, 1889. On the latter cf.
Volkelt's paper in the
\_Philosophische Monatshefte\_, vol. xxvii. 1891; and on the \_Essays\_ a
notice by the same author in the same review, vol.
xxiii. 1887.]

Further, a reaction against crude naturalism is observable in the practical field, though political economists (Roscher) and jurists take a more active part in it than the philosophers. Personally R. von Jhering (1818-92;
\_Purpose in Law\_, 2 vols., 1877-83, 2d ed., 1884-86) stands on idealistic ground, although, rejecting the nativistic and formalistic theory, he is in principle an adherent of "realism," of the principle of

interest and social utility (the moral is that Which is permanently useful to society).

Finally, similar motives underlie the growing interest in the history of philosophy. The idealistic impulse seeks the nourishment which the un-metaphysical present denies to it from the great works of the past, and

hopes, by keeping alive the classical achievements of previous times, to

enhance the consciousness of the urgency and irrepressibleness of the

highest questions, and to awaken courage for renewed attempts at their

solution. Thus the study of history enters the service of systematic philosophy.

%(c) The Special Philosophical Sciences.%--The more the courage to attack

the central problems of philosophy has been paralyzed by the neo-Kantian

theory of knowledge and the coming-in of the positivistic spirit, the more

lively has been the work of the last decades in the special departments:

the transfer of the center of gravity from metaphysics to the particular

sciences is the most prominent characteristic of the philosophy of the

time. Logic sees century-old convictions shattered and new foundations

arising. Psychology has entered into competition with physiology in regard

to the discovery of the laws of the psychical functions which depend

on bodily processes, while metaphysical questions are forced into the

background and there is a growing distrust of the reliability of inner

observation. The philosophy of religion is favored with undiminished

interest and aesthetics, after long neglect, with a renewal of attention;

the philosophy of history is about to reconquer its former rights.

There is, moreover, an especially lively interest in ethics; and the

investigation of the history of philosophy is more widely extended than

ever before. We will close our sketch with a short

survey of the particular disciplines.

In the department of logic the following should be mentioned as classical achievements: the works of Christoph Sigwart of Tübingen (vol. i. 1873, 2d ed., 1889; vol. ii. 1878), of Lotze (p. 605), and of Wundt (vol. i. Erkenntnisslehre , 1880; vol. ii. Methodenlehre , 1883). Besides these, Bergmann (p. 620), Schuppe (p. 619), and Benno Erdmann ( Logik\_, vol. i. 1892) deserve notice. In psychology the following writers have made themselves prominent: Wilhelm Wundt at Leipsic (born 1832), Grundzüge der physiologischen Psychologie\_, 1874, 3d ed., 1887; A. Horwicz, Psychologische Analysen auf physiologischer Grundlage , 1872 seg .; Franz Brentano in Vienna (born 1838), Psychologie vom empirischen Standpunkte, vol. i. 1874; Carl Stumpf of Munich (born 1848), Ueber den psychologischen Ursprung der Raumvorstellung , 1873, Tonpsychologie , vol. i. 1883, vol. ii. 1890; Theodor Lipps of Breslau (born 1851), Grundthatsachen des Seelenlebens\_, 1883. The following may be mentioned in the same connection: J.H. Witte, Das Wesen der Seele , 1888; H. Münsterberg, Die Willenshandlung , 1888, Beiträge zur experimentellen Psychologie , 1889 seq ,; Goswin K. Uphues at Halle, Wahrnehmung und Empfindung, 1888, Ueber die Erinnerung , 1889; H. Schmidkunz, Psychologie der Suggestion, 1892; H. Ebbinghaus, the co-editor of the Zeitschrift für Psychologie una Physiologie der Sinnesorgane , 1890 seq .; H. Spitta; Max Dessoir, Der Hautsinn , in

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the Archiv für Anatomie una Physiologie , 1892. The
following works are
psychological contributions to the theory of knowledge:
E.L. Fischer,
Theorie der Gesichtswahrnehmung , 1891; Hermann
Schwarz, Das
Wahrnehmungsproblem , 1892. Finally we may add A. Dorner
in Königsberg,
Das menschliche Erkennen , 1887; and E.L. Fischer, Die
Grundfragen der
Erkenntnisstheorie , 1887.
The literature of moral philosophy has been
substantially enriched by
Wundt, Ethik, 1886, 2d ed., 1892; and Friedrich
Paulsen, System der
Ethik, 1889, 2d ed., 1891. We may mention, further,
Baumann (p. 601);
Schuppe, Grundzüge der Ethik und Rechtsphilosophie,
1882; Witte,
_Freiheit des Willens_, 1882; G. Class in Erlangen,
Ideale und Güter_,
1886; Richard Wallaschek, Ideen zur praktischen
Philosophic_, 1886;
F. Tönnies in Kiel, _Gemeinschaft und Gesellschaft_,
1887; A. Döring,
Philosophische Güterlehre , 1888; Th. Ziegler,
Sittliches Sein und
Werden , 2d ed., 1890; G. Simmel, Einleitung in die
Moralwissenschaft,
vol. i. 1892.
Of the newer works in the field of aesthetics , in
addition to A.
Zeising's Aesthetische Forschungen , 1855, C. Hermann's
Aesthetik ,
1875, and Hartmann's Philosophie des Schönen, 1887, we
may mention the
Einleitung in die Aesthetik of Karl Groos, 1892, and
the following by
Lipps: Der Streit über die Tragödie , 1890;
Aesthetische Faktoren der
Raumanschauung , 1891; the essay Psychologie der Komik
(Philosophische
Monatshefte, vols. xxiv.-xxv. 1888-89), and
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Aesthetische
Litteraturberichte , (in the same review, vol. xxvi.
1890 seq .).
Among the writers and works on the philosophy of
history we may note
Conrad Hermann in Leipsic (born 1819), Philosophie der
Geschichte , 1870;
Bernheim, Geschichtsforschung und
Geschichtsphilosophie , 1880; Karl
Fischer, Ist eine Philosophie der Geschichte
wissenschaftlich erforderlich
bezw. möglich? Dillenburg Programme, 1889; Hinneberg,
Die philosophischen
Grundlagen der Geschichtswissenschaft in Sybel's
Historische
Zeitschrift , vol. lxiii. 1889; A. Dippe, Das
Geschichtsstudium mit
seinen Zielen und Fragen , 1891; Georg Simmel, Die
Probleme der
Geschichtsphilosophie , 1892.
In the philosophy of religion , which is discussed
especially by the
theologians, a neo-Kantian and a neo-Hegelian tendency
confront each other.
The former, dividing in its turn, is represented, on the
one hand, by
the Ritschlian school--W. Herrmann in Marburg ( Die
Metaphysik in der
Theologie , 1876, Die Religion im Verhältniss zum
Welterkennen und zur
Sittlichkeit , 1889), J. Kaftan in Berlin ( Das Wesen
der christlichen
Religion_, 1881) -- and, on the other, by R.A. Lipsius in
Jena (born 1830;
Dogmatik , 1876, 2d ed., 1879; Philosophie und
Religion_, 1885). The
latter is represented by A.E. Biedermann of Zurich
(1819-85; _Christliche
Dogmatik , 1868; 2d ed., 1884-85), a pupil of W. Vatke,
and by Otto
Pfleiderer of Berlin (born 1839; _Religionsphilosophie_,
1879; 2d ed.,
1883-4). The neo-Kantians base religion exclusively on
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the practical side

of human nature, especially on the moral law, derive it from the contrast

between external dependence on nature and the inner freedom or supernatural

destination of the spirit, and wish it preserved from all intermixture

with metaphysics. According to the neo-Hegelians, on the contrary, the

theoretical element in religion is no less essential; and is capable of

being purified, of being elevated from the form of representation, which is

full of contradictions, into the adequate form of pure thought, capable,

therefore, of reconciliation with philosophy. Hugo Delff ( Ueber den Weg

zum Wissen und zur Gewissheit zu gelangen\_, 1882; \_Die Hauptprobleme der

Philosophie und Religion\_, 1886) follows Jacobi's course.

Among the numerous works on the \_history of philosophy\_, besides the

masterpieces of Zeller, J.E. Erdmann, and Kuno Fischer, the following are especially worthy of attention:

Cl. Bäumker in Breslau, \_Das Problem der Materie in der griechischen

Philosophie\_, 1890; H. Bonitz, \_Platonische Studien\_, 3d ed., 1886,

\_Aristotelische Studien\_, 1862 \_seq., Index Aristotelicus\_, 1870, \_Kleine

Schriften\_; P. Deussen (born 1845), \_Das System der Vedanta\_, 1883, H.

Diels in Berlin, \_Doxographi Graeci\_, 1879; Eucken in Jena (p. 17), \_Die

Methode der aristotelischen Forschung\_, 1872, Address Ueber den Werth der

Geschichte der Philosophie\_, 1874; J. Freudenthal in Breslau (born 1839,

pp. 63, 118), \_Hellenistische Studien, 3 Hefte\_, 1879, \_Ueber die Theologie

des Xenophanes, 1886; M. Heinze in Leipsic, Die Lehre

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vom Logos in der
griechischen Philosophie_, 1872; G. Freiherr von
Hertling in Munich (born
1843), Materie und Form und die Definition der Seele
bei Aristoteles ,
1871, Albertus Magnus , 1880; H. Heussler in Basle (p.
65 note),
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## %4. Retrospect.%

In order to avoid the appearance of arbitrary construction we have been

sparing with references of a philosophico-historical character. In

conclusion, looking back at the period passed over, we may give expression

to some convictions concerning the guiding threads in the development of

modern philosophy, though these here claim only the rights of subjective opinion.

A mirror of modern culture, and conscious of its sharp

antithesis to

Scholasticism, modern philosophy in its pre-Kantian period is pre-eminently

characterized by naturalism. Nature, as a system of masses moved according

to law, forms not only the favorite object of investigation, but also

the standard by which psychical reality is judged and explained. The two

directions in which this naturalism expresses itself, the mechanical

view of the world, which endeavors to understand the universe from the

standpoint of nature and all becoming from the standpoint of motion,[1] and

the intellectualistic view, which seeks to understand the mind from the

standpoint of knowledge, are most intimately connected. Where the general

view of the All takes form and color from nature, a content and a mission

can come to the mind from no other source than the external world; whether

we (empirically) make it take up the material of representation from

without or (rationalistically) make it create an ideal reproduction of

the content of external reality from within, it is always the function of

knowledge, conceived as the reproduction of a completed reality, which,

since it brings us into contact with nature, advances into the foreground

and determines the nature of psychical activity. As is conceivable, along

with dogmatic faith in the power of the reason to possess itself of the

reality before it and to reconstrue it in the system of science, and with

triumphant references to the mathematical method as a guaranty for the

absolute certainty of philosophical knowledge, the noëtical question

emerges as to the means by which, and the limits within which, human

knowledge is able to do justice to this great problem. Descartes gave out

the programme for all these various tendencies--the mechanical explanation

of nature, the absolute separation of body and soul (despiritualization of

matter), thought the essence of the mind, the demand for certain knowledge,

armed against every doubt, and the question as to the origin of ideas. Its

execution by his successors shows not only a lateral extension in the

most various directions (the dualistic view of the world held by the

occasionalists, the monistic or pantheistic view of Spinoza, the

pluralistic or individualistic view of Leibnitz; similarly the antithesis

between the sensationalism of Locke and Condillac and the rationalism

of Spinoza and Leibnitz), but also a progressive deepening of problems,

mediated by party strife which puts every energy to the strain. What a

tremendous step from the empiricism of Bacon to the skepticism of Hume,

from the innate ideas of Descartes to the potential \_a priori of Leibnitz!

From the moment when the negative and positive culminations of the

pre-Kantian movement in thought--Hume and Leibnitz--came together in

one mind, the conditions of the Kantian reform were given, just as the

preparation for the Socratic reform had been given in the skepticism of the

Sophists and the [Greek: nous] principle of Anaxagoras.

[Footnote 1: Even for Leibnitz the mind is a machine (\_automaton

spirituale\_), and psychical action a movement of ideas.]

Kant, who dominates the second period of modern philosophy down to the present time, is related to his predecessors in a

twofold way. In his

criticism he completes the noëtical tendency, and at the same time

overcomes naturalism, by limiting the mechanical explanation (and with

it certain knowledge, it is true) to phenomena and opposing moralism to

intellectualism. Nature must be conceived from the standpoint of the spirit

(as its product, for all conformity to law takes its origin in the spirit),

the spirit from the standpoint of the will. Metaphysics, as the theory of

the \_a priori\_ conditions of experience, is raised to the rank of a

science, while the suprasensible is removed from the region of proof and

refutation and based upon the rock of moral will. In the positive side of

the Kantian philosophy--the spirit the law-giver of nature, the will the

essence of spirit and the key to true reality--we find its kernel, that

in it which is forever valid. The conclusions on the absolute worth of

the moral disposition, on the ultimate moral aim of the world, on the

intelligible character, and on radical evil, reveal the energy with which

Kant took up the mission of furnishing the life-forces opened up by

Christianity--which the Middle Ages had hidden rather than conserved under

the crust of Aristotelian conceptions entirely alien to them, and the

pre-Kantian period of modern times had almost wholly
ignored--an entrance

into philosophy, and of transforming and enriching the modern view of the

world from this standpoint. Kant's position is as opposite and superior to

the specifically modern, to the naturalistic temper of the new period, as

Plato stands out, a stranger and a prophet of the future, above the level

of Greek modes of thought. More fortunate, however, than Plato, he found

disciples who followed further in the direction pointed out by that face of

the Janus-head of his philosophy which looked toward the future: the

ethelism of Fichte and the historicism of Hegel have their roots in Kant's

doctrine of the practical reason. These are acquisitions which must never

be given up, which must ever be reconquered in face of attack from forces

hostile to spirit and to morals. In life, as in science, we must ever anew

"win" ethical idealism "in order to possess it." As yet the reconciliation

of the historical and the scientific, the Christian and the modern spirit

is not effected. For the inbred naturalism of the modern period has not

only asserted itself, amalgamated with Kantian elements, in the realistic

metaphysics and mechanical psychology of Herbart and in the system of

Schopenhauer, as a lateral current by the side of Fichte, Schelling, and

Hegel, but, under the influence of the new and powerful development of the

natural sciences, has once more confidently risen against the traditions of

the idealistic school, although now it is tempered by criticism and

concedes to the practical ideals at least a refuge in faith. The conviction

that the rule of neo-Kantianism is provisional does not rest merely on the

mutability of human affairs. The widespread active study of the philosophy

of the great Königsberger gives ground for the hope that also those

elements in it from which the systems of the idealists have proceeded as

necessary consequences will again find attention and appreciation. The

perception of the fact that the naturalistico-mechanical

view represents

only a part, a subordinate part, of the truth will lead to the further

truth, that the lower can only be explained by the higher. We shall also

learn more and more to distinguish between the permanent import of the

position of fundamental idealism and the particular form which the

constructive thinkers have given it; the latter may fall before legitimate

assaults, but the former will not be affected by them. The revival of the

Fichteo-Hegelian idealism by means of a method which shall do justice to

the demands of the time by a closer adherence to experience, by making

general use of both the natural and the mental sciences, and by an exact

and cautious mode of argument--this seems to us to be the task of the

future\_. The most important of the post-Hegelian
systems, the system of

Lotze, shows that the scientific spirit does not resist reconciliation with

idealistic convictions in regard to the highest questions, and the

consideration which it on all sides enjoys, that there exists a strong

yearning in this direction. But when a deeply founded need of the time

becomes active, it also rouses forces which dedicate themselves to its

service and which are equal to the work.

THE END.

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INDEX.

Abbt

```
Absolute, the
 Fichte on
 Schelling on
 F. Krause on
 Schleiermacher on
 Hegel on
 Fortlage on
 Spencer on
 Böstrom on
 Strauss on
 Feuerbach on
 the theistic school on
 Lotze on
 Hartmann on
 See also
 God
 the Unconditioned
Achillini
Adamson, R.
Aesthetics
 of Home (Lord Kames)
 of Burke
 of Baumgarten
 of Herder
 of Kant
 of Schiller
 of Schelling
 of Hegel
 of J.F. Fries
 of Herbart
 of Schopenhauer
Agnosticism, of Spencer
Agricola, R.
Agrippa of Nettesheim
Ahrens, H.
Alexandrists
Allihn
Althusius
Anderson
Angiulli, A.
Annet, P.
Antal, G. von
Antinomies, the
 of Kant
 his antinomy of aesthetic judgment
```

```
and of teleological judgment
Apelt, E.F.
A priori , the
 in Kant
 in Kant and the post-Kantians
 nature, in Schelling
 in J.F. Fries
 Beneke on
 Herbart on
 J.S. Mill on
 Spencer's doctrine of the racial origin of
 Opzoomer on
Cf . Ideas
Aquinas, Thomas
Ardigò, R.
Aristotelians, the
 opponents of
Arnauld
Arnoldt, E.
Associationalism
 of Hartley and Priestley
 of Hume
 of the Mills
 of Bain
Ast, G.A.F.
Atomism
 in modern physics
 in Gassendi and Descartes
 in Boyle
 Leibnitz on
Attributes
 in Descartes
 Spinoza's doctrine of
Auerbach
Augustine
Avenarius, R.
Averroists
Baader, F. (von),
 and Schelling
 system of
Bach, J.
Bacmeister
Bacon, Francis
 a beginner of modern philosophy,
```

doctrine of, in relation to Locke

Bacon, Roger Bahnsen, J. Bain, Alexander Baku Barclay Bardili Bartholomaei Barzellotti, G. Basedow Bauer, Bruno Bauer, Edgar Baumann, J. Baumeister Baumgarten, Alex. Baumgarten, Siegmund Bäumker, Cl. Baur, F.C. Bayle, P., doctrine of, and Leibnitz Beattie, J. Beck, Sigismund Beckers, H., Bekker, Balthasar, III Belger Bellarmin Beneke, F.E. Benoit, G. von Bentham, J. Bentley, Richard Berger, J.E. von Bergmann, J. Berkeley, George, position in modern philosophy, view of mind and matter, relation to Locke on perception, on knowledge, his system, relation to Hume, relation to Scottish School, relation to Condillac, his idealism criticised by Kant,

```
referred to
Bernard, Claude
Bernheim
Bessarion
Bezold, F. von,
Biberg
Biedermann, A.E.
Biedermann, Fr. K.
Bilfinger
Billewicz, J. von,
Biran, Maine de
Blignières
Bluntschli
Bodin(us)
Body and Mind, _see_ Mind and Body
Boëthius, D.
Böhme, Jacob,
 system of,
 and Schelling
Böhmer
Böhringer, A.
Bolin, W.
Bolingbroke
Bolzano, B.
Bonald, Victor de
Bonatelli, F.
Bonitz, H.
Bonnet
Bontekoe
Boole, G.
Borelius, J.
Borelli
Borgeaud
Bosanquet, B.
Böstrom, C.J.
Botta, V.
Bouillier
Bourdin
Bourignon, Antoinette
Bowen, F.
Bowne, B.P.
Boyle, R.
Bradley, F.H.
Brahé, Tycho
Brandes, G.
```

Braniss, J. Brasch, M. Brentano, F. Bröchner, H. Brockerhoff Brown, Thomas Browne, Peter Browne, Sir Thomas Brucker Bruder Brunnhofer Bruno, Giordano system of and Spinoza, and Schelling Brütt, M. Buchanan, George Büchner, L. Buckle Budde Buffon Burckhardt Burdach, K.F. Burgersdijck Burke, Edmund Burt, B.C. Busch, O. Butler, Joseph Butler, N.M. Cabanis Caesalpin Caird, Edward Caird, John Cairns Calker, F.V. Camerer Campanella, Thomas system of Campe Cantoni Cantor, G. Caporali, E. Cardanus, Hieronymus

Brandis, C.A.

```
Carlyle, Thomas
Carneri
Caro, E.
Carpenter, W.B.
Carrière, M.
Cartesians, the
 Locke's relation to
 Leibnitz's relation to
Carus, F.A.
Carus, K.G.
Carus, P.
Caspari, O.
Categories, the, Kant on
 Hegel's doctrine of
Caterus
Causation
 Spinoza's view of
 Locke on
 Hume's skeptical analysis of
 Kant on
 Schopenhauer on
 Lotze on
 Hartmann on
 See also Sufficient Reason, Teleology
Cesca, Giovanni
Chalybaeus
Chandler, Samuel
Channing, W.E.
Character, the Intelligible
 in Kant
 in Schelling
 in Schopenhauer
Charron, Pierre
Christ, P.
Chubb, Thomas
Cieszkowski, A. von
Clarke, Samuel
 ethics of
Class, G.
Classen, A.
Clauberg
Cogito ergo sum
the Cartesian
Cohen, H.
Colecchi, A.
```

```
Coleridge, S.T.
Collard, Royer
Collier, Arthur
Collins, Anthony
Collins, F.H.
Collins, W.L.
Combachius
Comenius
Commer, E.
Common Sense, Scottish doctrine of
Comte, Auguste
Condillac
 doctrine of
Condorcet
Conn, H.W.
Conybeare, J.
Copernicus, N.
Cordemoy
Cosmological Argument, the
 in Locke
 in Rousseau
 in Leibnitz
 in Kant
Cotes, Roger
Cousin, Victor
Cremonini
Crescas, Chasdai
Creuz, K. von
Critique of Reason, the
 meaning of
 the neo-Kantians on
 its central position in modern thought
Crousaz
Crusius, C.A.
Cudworth, Ralph
 ethics of
Cumberland, Richard
Czolbe, H.
D'Alembert
Damiron
Danzel
Darjes
Darwin, Charles
Darwin, Erasmus
```

```
Daub, K.
Da Vinci, Leonardo
Deism
 naturalism of
 in Herbert
 in English thinkers of XVIII. century
 in Hume
 in Rousseau
 of Reimarus
 in Lessing
 Kant's relation to
 See also Faith, Faith and Reason, Religion, Theology
Delboeuf
Delff, H.
De Morgan, A.
Denifle
Des Bosses
Descartes, René
 system of
 and occasionalism
 and Spinoza
 and Locke
 and Leibnitz
 _See also_ Spinoza
Desdouits
Dessoir, M.
Deter
Determinism
 in Hobbes
 in Spinoza
 of the early associationalists
 of Hume
 in Leibnitz
 of Schleiermacher
 of Herbart
 of Schopenhauer
 of J.S. Mill
 of Jonathan Edwards
  See also Character, the Intelligible; Freedom of the
Will
Deussen, P.
Deutinger, M.
De Wette
Dewey, J.
```

```
Diderot, Denis
Diels, H.
Dieterich, K.
Digby, Everard
Dillman
Dilthey, W.
 doctrine of,
Dippe, A.
Döring, A.
Dorner, A.
Doubt
 the Cartesian
 in Bayle
 Rousseau's reverential
Drobisch, M.W.
Droz
Druskowitz, Helene
Du Bois-Reymond, E
Dühring, E.
Dumont, E.
Duncan, G.M.
Durdik
Ebbinghaus, H.
Eberhard, J.A.
Echtermeyer
Eckhart
Eclecticism, of the German Illumination
 of Schleiermacher
 of Cousin and his School
Edfeldt, H.
Education
 Locke on
 Rousseau on
Edwards, Jonathan
Ego, the
 certain knowledge of, in Campanella, and Descartes
 the individual, and the transcendental consciousness in
Kant
 Fichte's doctrine of
 a complex of representations in Beneke
 Fortlage on
 Herbart's doctrine of
 the neo-Kantians on the individual, and the
transcendental consciousness
```

```
See also Soul
Ellis
Emerson, R.W.
Empiricism
 founded by Bacon
 in Hobbes
 and rationalism
 of Locke
 of J.S. Mill
 of Opzoomer
 Liebmann on
 See also Experience, Sensationalism
Encyclopedists, the
Engel, J.J.
Ennemoser
Erasmus, Desiderius
Erdmann, Benno
 works by
Erdmann, J.E.
 works by
 philosophy of
Erhardt, F.
Eschenmayer, K.A.
Ethelism
 in Crusius
 of Fichte
 of Schopenhauer
 in Hartmann
 _See also_ Panthelism.
Ethics
 Bacon on
 Hobbes's political theory of
 Descartes on
 Geulincx on
 Spinoza on
 Pascal on
 Malebranche on
 Locke on
 English, of XVIII. century
 Hume's empirical and mechanical
 of French sensationalists
 of French materialists
 of Rousseau
 of Leibnitz
 of Herder
```

```
of Kant
 of Fichte
 of Schleiermacher
 of Hegel
 of J.F. Fries
 of Beneke
 of Herbart
 of Schopenhauer
 of Comte
 of Bentham
 of J.S. Mill,
 of Spencer
 of T.H. Green
 of Lotze
 of Hartmann
 recent German interest in
Eucken, R.
 works by
 philosophy of
Everett, C.C.
Evil
 Weigel on the origin of
 Böhme on the origin of
 Spinoza's doctrine of
 Leibnitz's doctrine of
 Schelling's theory of
 Baader's theory of
 Fechner's view of
 See also Optimism, Pessimism
Evolution
 in the sense of explication in Nicolas of Cusa
 and involution in Leibnitz
 cosmical, of Spencer
 biological, of Darwin
 Cf . also the systems of Schelling, Hegel, Hartmann
Exner, F.
Experience
 the basis of science in Bacon
 Kant on
 Green on
 Liebmann's view of
 See also Empiricism, Sensationalism
External World, the
 reality of, in Descartes
 knowledge and reality of, in Locke
```

```
Berkeley on
 Kant on the reality of
 the "material of duty in the form of sense" in Fichte
Faber Stapulensis (Lefèvre of Etaples)
Faith
 the reformers' view of
 Deistic view of
 Kant on
 Kant on moral or practical
 Paulsen on practical
 See also Deism
Faith and Reason,
 the relation of, in modern philosophy
 Bayle on
 Locke on
 Deistic view of
 in Rousseau
 Leibnitz on
 Lessing on
 Baader on
 Schleiermacher on
 See also Deism
Faith Philosophy, the
 of Hamann
 of Herder
 of Jacobi
 elements of, in J.F. Fries
Falckenberg, R.
 works by
Farrer, J.A.
Fechner, G.T.
 system of
Fechner, H.A.
Feder, J.G.H.
Feeling
 the basis of knowledge in Pascal
 the central doctrine of Rousseau
 central to religion in Schleiermacher
 See also The Faith Philosophy
Ferguson, Adam
Ferrari, Giuseppe
Ferraz
Ferri, L.
Ferrier, D.
```

```
Ferrier, J.F.
Fester, R.
Feuerbach, L.
 philosophy of
Fichte, I.H.
Fichte, J.G.
 and Kant
 system of
 and Schelling
 and Hegel
 and Herbart
 and Lotze
 _See also_ Idealism, Jacobi, Kant
Ficinus
Filmer
Final Causes, see Teleology
Fiorentino, F.
Fischer, E.L.
Fischer, K. Ph.
Fischer, Karl
Fischer, Kuno
 works by
 on Spinoza
 on Kant
 his philosophy
 and neo-Kantianism
Fiske, John
Flint, K.
Fludd, R.
Flügel
Forberg
Forge, L. de la
Fortlage, Karl
works by
 system of
Fouillèe, A.
Fowler, Thos.
Fox Bourne
Franchi, A.
Franck, A.
Franck, Sebastian
Francke
Frantz, K.
Eraser, A.C.
Frauenstädt, J.
```

```
Frederichs, F.
Frederick the Great
Freedom of the Will, Hobbes's denial of
 Descartes's unlimited affirmation of
 denied by Spinoza
 Locke on
 denied by Hume
 in Rousseau
 Leibnitz on
 Herder on
 Kant on
 Fichte on
 Schelling on
 Herbart on
 Schopenhauer on
 J-S. Mill on
 See also Character, the Intelligible; Determinism
Frege, G.
Freudenthal, J.
Fries, A. de
Fries, J.F., and Kant
 an opponent of constructive idealism
 his system
 and Herbart
Froschammer
Fullerton, G.S.
Gabler
Gale
Galileo (Galileo Galilei)
his work as a foundation for modern physics
 his system
Galluppi, P.
Galton, Francis
Garve, C.
Gassendi, P.
Gauss
Gay
Geijer, E.G.
Geil
Genovesi, A.
Gentilis, Albericus
George, L.
George of Trebizond
Georgius Scholarius (Gennadius)
```

```
Gerdil, S.
Gerhardt
Gerson
Gersonides
Geulincx, Arnold
Gichtel
Gierke, O.
Gilbert, William
Gioberti, V.
Gioja, M.
Gizycki, G. von
Glanvil
Glisson, Francis
Glogau, G.
God, doctrine of, in Nicolas of Cusa
 in Taurellus
 in Bruno
 Campanella's argument for the existence of
 Weigel's doctrine of
 Böhme's doctrine of
 Descartes's arguments for the existence of
 Spinoza's doctrine of
 Malebranche's view of
 Locke's doctrine of
 Berkeley ascribes ideas of sense-world to
 Hume's doctrine of
 Voltaire's doctrine of
 Holbach's discussion of
 Leibnitz's doctrine of
 Reimarus's doctrine of
 Lessing's doctrine of
 Herder's doctrine of
 Jacobi's doctrine of
 Kant on the arguments for the existence of
 Fichte's doctrine of
 Schelling's doctrine of
 F. Krause's doctrine of
 Baader's doctrine of
 Schleiermacher's doctrine of
 Beneke's doctrine of
 Herbart's doctrine of
 Böstrom's doctrine of
 the doctrine of, in Hegel's School
 Strauss's doctrine of
 Feuerbach's doctrine of
```

the doctrine of, in the Theistic School Fechner on the relation of God and the world Lotze's doctrine of Hartmann's doctrine of See also: Cosmological Argument Deism Ontological Argument Religion Teleological Argument Theology Göhring, C. Golther, L. von Göschel Goethe Gottsched Gracian, B. Grazia, V. de Green, T.H., works by doctrine of Grimm, E. Grimm, F.M., Baron von Groos, K. Grot, N. von Grote, John Grotius, Hugo Grubbe, S. Gruber, H. Grün, K. Guhrauer Günther, A. Gutberlet, C. Guthrie, M. Güttler, C. Guyau, J.M. Gwinner, W. Haeckel, E. Haeghen, V. van der Hagemann Hall, G.S. Hallier Hamann, J.G. Hamann, O. Hamberger

```
Hamilton, Sir William
Harless, A. von
Harmony
 Leibnitz's pre-established
 Wolff's development of Leibnitz's, pre-established
Harms, F.
Harris, W.T.
Harrison, Frederic
Hartenstein, G.
Hartley, David
Hartmann, E. von
works by
 system of
Harvey
Hase, K.A.
Hassbach
Hausegger
Hausrath
Havet
Haym, R.
Hazard, R.G.
Heath
Hebler, C.
Heereboord
Hegel, G.W.F.
 and Schelling
 system of
 opponents of
 influence and followers of
 _See also_ J.G. Fichte, Kant, Schelling
Hegelians, the Old
 the Young
 _See also_ Semi-Hegelians
Hegler, A.
Heiland, K.
Heinze, M.
Helmholtz, H.
Helmont, F.M. van
Helmont, J.B. van
Helvetius, C.A.
Hemming
Hemsterhuis, F.
Herbart, J.F.
 system of
 See also J.G. Fichte
```

```
Herbert, Lord, of Cherbury
Herder, J.G.
 system of
 Schelling and
Hering
Hermann, C.
Hermann, W.
Hermes, G.
Herz, M.
Heusde, P.W. van
Heussler, H.
Heyder, Karl
Hinneberg
Hinrichs
Hirnhaym
History
 Machiavelli on
 Herder's philosophy of
 Kant's view of
 Fichte's view of
 Schelling's view of
 F. Krause's philosophy of
 Hegel's philosophy of
 Vico's philosophy of
History of Philosophy, the
 importance of
 method in
 Hegel's view of
 recent development of
Hobbes, Thomas
 his system
 and Descartes
 and Spinoza
 and Locke
 and Hume
 and Pufendorf
Höffding, H.
Hoffmann, Franz
Höijer, B.
Holbach, Baron von
Hölder, A.
Hölderlin
Home, Henry, (Lord Kames)
Horváth
```

```
Horwicz, A.
Hotho
Huber, J.
Huber, U.
Huet(ius), P.D.
Hufeland
Hume, David
 system of
 and Scottish School
 and Kant
 See also Berkeley, Locke
Hunt, J.
Husserl, E.G.
Hutcheson, Francis
Huxley, T.H.
Ibbot
Idealism
 phenomenal or individual of Berkeley
 in Leibnitz
 critical or transcendental, of Kant
 post-Kantian, of Beck
 subjective, of Fichte
 objective, of Schelling
 absolute or logical, of Hegel
 the opposition to constructive
 in Schopenhauer
 German, in Great Britain
 of Green
 in America
 ethical or ideological, of Lotze
 idealistic reaction in Germany against the scientific
spirit
 Falckenberg on (ethical) idealism and the future
Ideas,
 innate, in Descartes, Locke, Leibnitz, the rationalists
and the empiricists
 origin of, in Descartes, Locke, Berkeley, Hume, the
rationalists and
 empiricists, and Herbart
 impressions and, in Hume
 unconscious ideas or representations in Leibnitz
 Ideas of reason in Kant
 the logical Idea the subject of the world-process in
Hegel
```

```
Identity, Locke on
 Spinozism a system of
 Schelling's philosophy or system of
 the philosophy of, among Schelling's followers
 Hegel's doctrine a system of
 Fortlage's system of
 philosophy of, in Schopenhauer
Immortality
 Hume on
 Voltaire on
 Rousseau on
 Leibnitz on
 Kant on
 Schleiermacher on
 Beneke on
 Herbart on
 Hegel's followers on
 Strauss on
 Fechner on
Imperative, the Categorical
 in Kant
 in Fichte
 in Beneke
Induction
 Kepler on
 Galileo on
 used before Bacon
 Bacon's theory of
 in Hobbes
 J.S. Mill's theory of
Irwing, Von
Jacobi, F.H.
 system of
 and Fichte
 and the anti-idealists
Jacobson, J.
Jäger, G.
James, William
Janet, Paul
Jansenists
Jastrow, J.
Jesuits
Jevons, W.S.
Jhering, R. von
```

```
Jodl, F.
Joël, M.
Jouffroy, T.
Judgment
 Descartes on
 rationalists and empiricists both mistake nature of
 Kant on synthetic judgments a priori
 the categories and, in Kant
 judgments of perception and of experience in Kant
 Kant on aesthetic and teleological
Jungius
Kaatz, H.
Kaftan, J.
Kaltenborn, C. von
Kant, I.
 position in modern philosophy
 and Locke
 and the Illumination
 system of
 the development to Fichte
 and Fichte
 and Schelling
 and Hegel
 and Schopenhauer
 his influence, followers, and opponents
 See also Berkeley, Critique of Reason, J.G. Fichte,
Hume, Leibnitz,
 Locke,
 Schopenhauer, Wolff
Kayserling
Kedney, J.S.
Kent, G.
Kepler, J.
 philosophy of
Kielmeyer
Kierkegaard, S.
Kieser
King, Lord
Kirchmann, J.H. von
Kirchner
Klein, G.M.
Knauer, V.
Knight, W.
```

```
Knoodt, P.
Knowledge
 theory of, in modern thought
 doctrine of, in Nicolas of Cusa
 declared deceptive by Montaigne
 mathematical basis of, in Kepler and Galileo
 in Bacon
 in Hobbes
 in Herbart
 the two views of
 Geulincx on
 Descartes on
 Spinoza on
 Malebranche on ("we see all things in God")
 Locke's doctrine of
 Berkeley on
 Hume's skeptical doctrine of
 Scottish doctrine of
 sensationalistic doctrine of, in France
 Leibnitz's theory of
 Kant on
 Fichte's Science of
 Schelling's philosophy of
 Baader on
 Schleiermacher's doctrine of
 Hegel on philosophical
 J.F. Fries's doctrine of
 Beneke on speculative
 Schopenhauer's doctrine of
 Comte's doctrine of
 Sir Wm. Hamilton's doctrine of
 J.S. Mill's doctrine of
 Spencer's doctrine of
 T.H. Green's doctrine of
 Feuerbach's doctrine of
 Lotze's doctrine of
 Hartmann's doctrine of
 the neo-Kantians on
 the German positivists on
 influence of recent science on the theory of
 Liebmann's doctrine of
 See also Agnosticism, Critique of Reason, Empiricism,
Faith,
 Faith and Reason, Nominalism, Positivism, Rationalism
and Empiricism,
```

```
Relativity, Sensationalism, Skepticism
Knutzen, M.
Koch, A.
Koeber, R. von
Koegel, F.
König, E.
Koppelmann
Köstlin, Karl
Krause, A.
Krause, E.
Krause, F.
Krauth, C.P.
Krohn, A.
Kroman, K.
Krug, W.T.
Kuhn
Kuntze, J.E.
Kvacsala
Kym, A.L.
Laas, E.
Laban, F.
Labriola,
La Bruyère
Ladd, G.T.
Laffitte, P.
Lagrange
Lambert, J.H.
Lamennais, F. de
La Mettrie, J.O. de
La Mothe la Vayer
Land, J.P.N.
Lange, F.A.
Lange, J.J.
La Rochefoucauld
Lasson, A.
Lasswitz, K.
Last, E.
Lavater
Law (or Right)
 early philosophy of
 Montesquieu on
 Pufendorf on
 C. Thomasius on
 Kant's theory of legal right
```

```
Fichte's theory of right
 Schelling's view of
 F. Krause's philosophy of right
 Hegel's philosophy of right
Lazarus, M.
Lechler
Leclair, A. von
Leibnitz, Friedrich (the father)
Leibnitz, G.W.
 position in modern thought
 and occasionalism
 system of
 and the Illumination (Wolff, Lessing)
 and Kant
 _See also_ Descartes, Locke, Spinoza
Leonhardi, H.K. von
Leopold
Lessing, G.E.
 system of
Lewes, G.H.
Liard, L.
Liberatore, M.
Lichtenberg
Liebiq
Liebmann, O.
Linde, A. van der
Lindemann
Lipps, T.
Lipsius, Justus
Lipsius, R.A.
Littré, E.
Locke, J.
 position in modern philosophy
 system of
 and Berkeley
 and Hume
 and the French Illumination (and Rousseau)
 and Leibnitz
 and Kant
 _See also_ Bacon, Berkeley, Descartes, Empiricism, Kant
Lohmeyer
Lombroso, C.
Lossius
Lott, F.C.
Lotze, R.H.
```

system of Löwe, J.H. Lubbock, J. Lülmann, C. Luther Lutterbeck Lyng, G.V. Macaulay, T.B. Machiavelli, N. Mackie Mackintosh, J. Mahaffy, J.P. Maimon, S. Maimonides Mainländer, P. Mainzer, J. Maistre, J, de Malebranche, Nicolas system of Mamiani, T. Mandeville, Bernard de Mansel, H.L. Marcus Marheineke Mariana, Juan Mariano Marion, H. Marsh, James Marsilius of Padua Martin, B. Martineau, Harriet Martineau, James Martini, Jacob Masson, David Materialism in Hobbes Spinoza's tendency toward in the early associationalists in France in XVIII. century Kant on in Schopenhauer and Spencer's philosophy in Strauss of Feuerbach

```
the controversy over, in Germany
 Lange on
Mathematics
 the philosophical use of, advocated by Nicolas of Cusa
 by Kepler
 scientific use of, ignored by Bacon
 Hobbes's recognition of
 method of, adopted by Spinoza
 Kant on philosophy and
 Kant on science and
 applied to psychology by Herbart
 and by Fechner
 recent, and philosophy
Maudsley, Henry
Maupertuis
Mayer, F.
Mayer, R.
McCosh, J.
Mechanism
 in modern thought
 in modern physical science
 the central doctrine of Hobbes
 fundamental in Spinoza
 applied to mind by the associationalists
 of J.F. Fries
 of ideas in Herbart
 in Lotze
 in recent physical science
 See also Naturalism, Physical Science, Teleology
Meier, G.F.
Meiners
Melancthon
Mellin
Melville, Andrew
Mendelssohn
Mersenne
Merz, J.T.
Metaphysics
 Bacon on
 of Descartes
 of Spinoza
 of Leibnitz
 the Wolffian division of
 Kant on
 Hegel on
```

```
of Fortlage
 of Herbart
 Comte on
 of Fechner
 of Lotze
 of Hartmann
 recent German views on
Meyer, J.B.
Meyer, Ludwig
Michelet, C.L.
Michelis,
Mill, James
Mill, J.S.
Milton, John
Mind and Body
 Descartes on
 occasionalistic view of, in Geulincx
 Spinoza on
 Hartley and Priestley on
 Leibnitz on
 J.F. Fries on
Modern Philosophy
 value of history of
 characteristics of
 relation to the church
 relation to nationality
 beginnings of
 bibliography of
 two main schools of
 future of
Modes (of Substance)
 in Descartes
 in Spinoza
 in Locke
Moleschott
Monads
 Giordano Bruno's doctrine of
 Leibnitz's doctrine of
 Wolff's development of Leibnitz's doctrine of
Monchamp, G.
Monck, W.H.S.
Monrad, M.J.
Montaigne, M. de
Montesquieu
More, H.
```

```
More, Thomas
Moreau
Morelly
Morgan, C.L.
Morgan, Thomas
Moriz
Morley, J.
Morris, G.S.
Morselli
Mueller, W.
Müller, F.A.
Müller, G.E.
Müller, H.
Müller, Johannes
Müller, Max
Münsterberg, H.
Münz, W.
Nahlowsky
Naigeon
Natge
Natorp, P.
Naturalism
 characteristic of modern philosophy
 See also Mechanism, Physical Science, Teleology
Nature, Philosophy of
 early Italian
 Schelling's
 among Schelling's followers
 Hegel's
 J.F. Fries's
 Herbart's
 _See also_ Physical Science
Nedich
Nees von Esenbeck
Nemes, E.
Neo-Kantians
Nettleship, R.L.
Neudecker
Newton, Isaac
Nichol
Nicolai, F.
Nicolas of Cusa
Nicole
Nielsen, R.
```

```
Niethammer
Nietzsche, F.
Niphus
Nippold
Nizolius, Marius
Noack, L.
Noiré, L.
Nolen
Nominalism
 in Hobbes
 in Locke
 of Berkeley
 of Hume
Noumena
 See also Phenomena, Things in themselves
Novalis
Nyblaeus, A.
Occam
Occasionalists
Oischinger
Oken, L.
Oldendorp
Ontological argument, the
 in Descartes
 in Spinoza
 in Leibnitz
 in Kant
Opel, J.O.
Opposites
 the unity of, in Nicolas of Cusa
 in Schelling
 the reconciliation and identity of, in Hegel
Optimism
 in Voltaire
 of Leibnitz
 of Schleiermacher
Opzoomer, C.W.
Oratorians
Oersted, H.C.
Oswald, James
Oettingen, A. von
Pabst, J.H.
Paley, W.
```

```
Pantheism
 of Nicolas of Cusa
 of Spinoza
 Malebranche's "Christian"
 in Toland
 Berkeley's tendency to
 of Holbach
 in Fichte
 in Schelling
 in Schleiermacher
 Fortlage's transcendent
 of Strauss
 the theistic school on
 See also Hegel, Panthelism
Panthelism
 of Fichte
 in Schelling
 of Schopenhauer
 See also Ethelism
Pappenheim
Paracelsus
Parker
Pascal, Blaise
Patritius, Franciscus
Paulsen, F.
Paulus
Pertz
Pessimism
 of Schopenhauer
 of Hartmann
Pesch
Pestalozzi, J.H.
Peters, K.
Pfleiderer, E.
Pfleiderer, 0.
Phenomena
 and things in themselves in Kant
 and representation in Kant
 and things in themselves in Herbart
 in Schopenhauer
 in Lotze
  See also Noumena, Things in themselves
Physical Science
 concepts of modern
 Newton's development of
```

```
its influence on philosophy in XIX century
Pico, Francis, of Mirandola
Pico, John, of Mirandola
Pierson
Pietsch, T.
Planck, A.
Planck, K.C.
Platner
Platonists
Pletho, G.G.
Plitt
Ploucquet
Plümacher, O.
Poiret, P.
Pollock, F.
Pomponatius, Petrus
Porter, N.
Positivism
 in Italy
 of Comte
 of Comte's followers
 in England
 in Sweden, Brazil, and Chili
 in Germany
Prantl
Prel, K. du
Price, Richard
Priestley, J.
Prowe, L.
Psychology
 the associational
 the sensationalistic
 of Leibnitz
 of Wolff
 of Tetens
 Kant on rational
 constructive
 the basis of philosophy in J.F. Fries
 and Beneke
 of Beneke
 of Fortlage
 of Herbart
 of Comte
 physiological
 folk-psychology
```

```
of Spencer
 See also Eqo, Mind and Body, Soul
Pufendorf, Samuel
Pünjer, B., works by
Quaebicker, R.
Qualities
 Primary and Secondary, so termed by Boyle
 Locke's doctrine of
 Kant's relation to
 Berkeley's co-ordination of
Quesnay
Rabus, L.
Ragnisco
Ramus (Pierre de la Ramée)
Rationalism and Empiricism
 in Locke
 in Leibnitz
 in Tschirnhausen
 in others of the German Illuminati
 in relation to Kant
Rauwenhoff
Ravaisson, F.
Realism
 of Herbart
 the "transfigured," of Spencer
the "transcendental realism" of Hartmann
Rée, P.
Regius
Regulative and constitutive principles, in Kant
Rehmke, J.
Rehnisch
Reichlin-Meldegg, K.A. von
Reicke, R
Reid, Thomas
Reiff, J.F.
Reimarus
Reinhold, E.
Reinhold, K.L.
Relativity of Knowledge
 in Comte
 of Sir Wm. Hamilton
 of Mansel
```

```
of Spencer
Religion
 Bacon's view of
 Hobbes on
 Lord Herbert's doctrine of natural
 Pascal on
 deistic view of
 Hume on
 Voltaire on
 Holbach on
 Rousseau's view of
 Leibnitz on
 Reimarus on
 Lessing's developmental theory of
 Kant on
 Fichte on
 Schelling on
 Schleiermacher's philosophy of
 Hegel's philosophy of
 Beneke on
 Herbart's doctrine of
 Schopenhauer's doctrine of
 Comte's religion of humanity
 Spencer's view of
 Hegel's followers on
 Strauss on
 Feuerbach's doctrine of
 Hartmann's philosophy of
 See also Deism, Faith, Faith and Reason, God,
Theology
Rémusat, C. de
Renan, E.
Renery
Renouvier, C.
Reuchlin, H.
Reuchlin, J.
Reuter, H.
Reynaud, J.
Ribbing, S.
Ribot, Th.
Riedel, O.
Riehl, A.
Riemann
Riezler, S.
Right, see Law
```

```
Rio, J.S. del
Ritschl, A.
Ritter, H.
Rixner
Robertson, G.C.
Robinet
Robinet, J.B.
Rocholl
Roeder
Rohmer, F.
Romagnosi, G.
Romanes, G.J.
Romanticists, the
Romundt, H.
Roscher
Röse, F.
Rosenkrantz, W.
Rosenkranz, K.
Rosmini, A.
Rothe, R.
Rousseau, J.J.
 system of
Royce, J.
Rüdiger
Ruge, A.
Ruge, S.
Ruysbroek
Sahlin
St. Martin, L.C.
Saint Simon, H. de
Saisset, E.
Sanchez, Francis
Schaarschmidt, C.
Schäffle, E.F.
Schaller
Schärer, E.
Schasler, M.
Scheffler
Scheibler
Schelling, F.W.J. (von)
 system of
 immediate followers of
 and Hegel
 See also J.G. Fichte, Hegel, Kant, Spinoza
```

```
Schelver
Schematism, Kant's
Schiller
Schindler, C.
Schlegel, F.
Schleicher, A.
Schleiden
Schleiermacher, F.D.E.
 system of
Schmid, E.
Schmid, Leopold
Schmidkunz, H.
Schmid-Schwarzenberg
Schmidt, K.
Schmidt, L.
Schmidt, O.
Schneider, C.M.
Schneider, G.
Schneider, G.H.
Schneider, O.
Schoenlank
Schopenhauer, A.
 and Kant
 system of
 followers of
Schoppe (Scioppius)
Schubert, F.W.
Schubert, G.H.
Schubert-Soldern, R. von
Schuller, H.
Schultze, Fritz
Schulz, J.
Schulze, G.E. (Aenesidemus-Schulze)
Schuppe, W.
Schurman, J.G.
Schütz
Schwarz, H.
Schwarz, G.E.
Schwegler, A.
Schwenckfeld
Scottish School, the
Selby-Bigge
Semi-Hegelians, the
Semi-Kantians, the
Semler
```

```
Sengler, J.
Sennert, D.
Sensation
 a source of knowledge in Locke
and in Hume
the sole source of knowledge in Condillac
Leibnitz's view of
See also Rationalism and Empiricism, Sensationalism
Sensationalism
 in Hobbes
 in modern thought in general
of Locke
of Condillac
of Bonnet
of Helvetius
of La Mettrie
of Holbach
in Italy
of Feuerbach
of the German positivists
 See also Empiricism, Experience, Sensation
Sergi, G.
Seth, A.
Seydel, R.
Seyfarth
Shaftesbury
Sherlock, T.
Sibbern, F.C.
Siber
Siciliani, P.
Sidgwick, H.
Sidney, Algernon
Siebeck
Sigwart, Chr. von
Sigwart, Chr. W.
Silesius
Sime, J.
Simmel, G.
Simon, J.
Skepticism, in Montaigne
 in Charron
in F. Sanchez
in Bayle
of Hume
of Diderot,
```

```
of D'Alembert
the anti-Critical, of Schulze
the Critical, of Maimon
Smith, Adam
Snell, K.
Social Contract, the theory of, in Hobbes
Hume on
 in Rousseau
Kant on
Solger, K.F.
Sommer, H.
Sommer, R.
Soul, the, thought the essence of, in Descartes
 a congeries of ideas in Spinoza
thought the essence of, in Malebranche,
thought merely an activity of, in Locke
 a sum of inner states in Hume
Leibnitz's monadological view of
Kant on
Herbart on
 See also Ego, Immortality, Mind and Body
Space (and Time), Hobbes on
 in Leibnitz
 in Kant
 in Herbart
 in Schopenhauer
in Spencer
 in Lotze
Spaventa
Spedding
Spencer, H.
 system of
Spicker, G.
Spinoza, B. de
position in modern philosophy
and Descartes
system of
and Leibnitz
and Schelling
 See also Descartes
Spirit, Schilling's philosophy of
Hegel's phenomenology of
his doctrine of subjective
of objective
of absolute
```

```
recent German philosophy of
Spitta, H.
Stadler, A.
Stahl, F.J.
Starcke, C.N.
State, the, early theories of
 Hobbes on
 Spinoza on
 Locke on
 Montesquieu on
 Rousseau's theory of
 Kant's view of
 Fichte on
 Schelling on
 Hegel on
 Spencer on
 See also Social Contract
Staudinger, F.
Steckelmacher, M.
Steffens, H.
Steffensen, K.
Steinbart
Stein, H. von
Stein, L.
Steinthal
Stephen, Leslie
Stern, A.
Stewart, Dugald
Stirling, J.H.
Stirner, Max (pseudonym, cf. K. Schmidt)
Stoeckl, A.
Stöhr, A.
Stout, G.F.
Strauss, D.F.
Strümpell, L.
Stumpf, C.
Stumpf, T.
Sturm, Christoph
Stutzmann
Suabedissen
Suarez, Francis
Substance
 Descartes on
 Spinoza on
 Locke on
```

```
Berkeley on (material)
 Hume's skeptical analysis of
 Leibnitz's doctrine of
 Kant on
 Schopenhauer on
 Hartmann on
Sufficient Reason, the Principle of
 in Leibnitz
 in Schopenhauer
Sully, James
Sulzer
Susemihl
Suso
Taine, H.
Tappan, H.P.
Taubert, A.
Tauler
Taurellus
Taute
Teichmüller
Teleological Argument, the
 in Boyle
 Hume on
 Reimarus on
 Leibnitz on
 Kant on
 Herbart on
Teleology
 minimized by modern thought
 rejected by modern physics
 in Boyle
 Bacon on
 Hobbes's denial of
 Descartes on
 Spinoza's denial of
 Newton on
 Leibnitz on
 Kant on
 in Fichte
 Schelling on
 in Hegel
 in Trendelenburg
 in Hartmann
 _See also_ Mechanism, Naturalism, Sufficient Reason,
```

```
Teleological
Argument
Telesius
Temple, Sir William
Testa
Tetens, J.N.
Thaulow
Theology
relation of, to philosophy in Taurellus
 in Campanella
and science in Bacon
 in Leibnitz
Lessing's speculative
Kant's view of
Schelling on
Schleiermacher's view of
Comte on the theological stage of thought
Strauss on
Feuerbach on
 See also Deism, Faith, Faith and Reason, God,
Religion
Thiele, G.
Things in themselves
 in Kant's critics and immediate successors
in Fichte
Liebmann on
 See also Phenomena, Noumena
Thomas à Kempis
Thilo
Thomasius, Christian
Thomasius, Jacob (Father of Christian)
Thomson, W.
Thorild, T.
Thümmig
Tieck
Tiedemann
Tillotson, J.
Time, Kant on objective determinations of
 See also Space and Time
Tindal, Matthew
Toland, John
Tönnies, F.
Torrey, H.A.P.
Toscanelli
```

```
Tracy, Destutt de
Trahndorff
Transcendental and Transcendent, meaning of, in Kant
Trendelenburg, A.
Treschow, N.
Tschirnhausen
Turgot
Twardowski, K.
Ueberhorst
Ueberweg, F.
Uebinger, J.
Ulrici, H.
Unconditioned, the
 in Kant
 in Sir Wm. Hamilton
 in Mansel
 in Spencer
 See also the Absolute
Unconscious, the, Hartmann's philosophy of
Uphues, G.K.
Vacherot, E.
Vaihinger, H.
Valla, L.
Vanini
Vatke, W.
Veitch, J.
Venetianer, M.
Venn, J.
Vera
Vico
Villers
Virchow, R.
Vischer, F.T.
Vives
Vloten, J. van
Voëtius
Voqel
Vogt, Karl
Volkelt, J.
works by
 position of
Volkmann von Volkmar
Volney (Chasseboeuf)
```

Voltaire Vorländer, F.

Waddington Wagner, J.J. Wagner, Richard Wagner, Rudolph Waitz, Theodor Wallace, A.R. Wallace, William Wallaschek, R. Walter, J. Warburton, W. Ward, J. Watson, John Weber, E.H. Weber, Theodor Weigel, E. Weigel, Valentin Weiss, Bruno Weisse, C.H. Weissenborn Werner, K. Weston, S. Burns Weygoldt Whately, Richard Whedon, D.D. Whewell, W. Whiston, W. Wildauer, T. Willmann, O. Windelband, W. Winkler, B. Witte, J.H. Wohlrabe Wolff, Christian system of and Kant Wollaston, William Woolston, T. Wundt, W. Wyck, Van der Wyttenbach, D.

Zabarella

Zart, G.
Zeising, A.
Zeller, E.
works of
position of
Ziegler, T.
Ziller, T.
Zimmer, F.
Zimmermann, R.
Zimmern, Helen
Zöllner

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