GREATNESS IN LITERATURE, AND OTHER PAPERS

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649180004

Greatness in literature, and other papers by W. P. Trent

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd. Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

W. P. TRENT

GREATNESS IN LITERATURE, AND OTHER PAPERS



GREATNESS IN LITERATURE

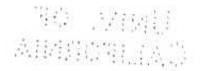
AND OTHER PAPERS

BY

W. P. TRENT

PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH LITERATURE IN COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
AUTHOR OF "SOUTHERN STATESMEN OF THE OLD
RÉGIME," "THE AUTHORITY OF
CRITICISM," ETC., ETC.

NEW YORK
THOMAS Y. CROWELL & CO.
PUBLISHERS



COPYRIGHT, 1905, BY THOMAS Y. CROWELL & CO.

Published, September, 1905.

PREFACE

This volume might have been described as a collection of literary addresses rather than of "papers," since far the larger portion of its contents was prepared for delivery on academic occasions. Everything, however, has been somewhat altered for publication, whether here or in the magazines from which I have been kindly allowed to reprint some articles; hence I have adopted the rather non-committal term "papers." I could not bring myself to employ that delightful and alluring word "essays," because that connotes to my mind a discursive charm which, perhaps, I could not impart to any composition, and which I certainly did not try to impart to most of the writings here collected. In every case except the last paper I was pursuing, successfully or unsuccessfully, a line of thought rather than loitering in the highways and byways of appreciative criticism. This fact, or what I think to be a fact, seemed at least not obscured by the use of the term "papers," whereas, if I had employed the term "essays," I should have run the risk of beguiling some readers not acquainted with my idiosyncratic deficiencies into supposing that they were taking up a book designed primarily to give them pleasure. I should be delighted to give pleasure, and I sincerely hope I shall give no pain; but my main object is to discuss certain topics with all the readers I can secure, especially with those who like myself are interested in the problems that confront the critic and the teacher of literature. But now, having done my best to warn off any reader who is on the lookout for true essays and to indicate the class of persons likely, if any are, to find something to their account in my volume, I leave that newcomer into the world of books to take care of itself.

W. P. TRENT.

NEW YORK, March 11, 1905.

CONTENTS

						PAGE
I.	THE QUESTION OF "GREAT					1
н.	A WORD FOR THE SMALLE FOR POPULAR JUDGMENT					43
III.	THE AIMS AND METHODS OF					
IV.	CRITICISM AND FAITH .	8		•		95
	LITERATURE AND SCIENCE					
VI.	TEACHING LITERATURE .	•	- 5	٠	٠	147
II.	Some Remarks on Modern	Во	ок-ві	JRNIN	G.	185
III.	THE LOVE OF POETRY .					219



I

THE QUESTION OF "GREATNESS IN LITERATURE"