

STONES OF STUMBLING

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649170043

Stones of stumbling by Lionel A. Tollemache

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

LIONEL A. TOLLEMACHE

**STONES OF
STUMBLING**



Demy 8vo, pp. xxiv., 430 cloth, 5s.

SAFE STUDIES.

By the Hon. Mr. and Mrs. LIONEL A. TOLLEMACHE.

Contents :—

- HISTORICAL PREDICTION. Sir G. C. LEWIS and LONGEVITY.
LITERARY EGOTISM. CHARLES AUSTIN.
RECOLLECTIONS of Mr. GROTE and Mr. BABBAGE.
Mr. TENNYSON'S SOCIAL PHILOSOPHY.
PHYSICAL and MORAL COURAGE. THE UPPER ENGADINE.
NOTES and RECOLLECTIONS of Sir CHARLES WHEATSTONE.
DEAN STANLEY and CANON KINGSLEY.
THE EPICURIST'S LAMENT. TRANSLATIONS and POEMS.

Demy 8vo, pp. 238, cloth, 2s. 6d.

STONES OF STUMBLING.

By the Hon. LIONEL A. TOLLEMACHE.

Contents :—

- THE CURE FOR INCURABLES. THE FEAR OF DEATH
FEARLESS DEATHS. DIVINE ECONOMY OF TRUTH.

Appendices :—

- RECOLLECTIONS OF PATTISON.* Mr. ROMANES'S CATECHISM.
NEOCHRISTIANITY and NEOCATHOLICISM: a Sequel.

* This is also published separately, demy 8vo, cloth, 1s.

“The essays are mainly biographical, and are full of wit and humour. They abound in good stories of all kinds. Every page shows the classical humanist, the man of taste and scholarly refinement; but, like the essays of Montaigne, of whom Mr. Tollemache is almost an English counterpart, there is a richer vein of thought and of philosophy running through all this lighter matter.”—*ANGLICAN CHURCH MAGAZINE*.

“Mr. Tollemache's essays seem to us to possess literary merit of a rare and high order. He is not only pleasantly anecdotic; he is eminently sympathetic, ingenious, thoughtful, and appreciative, and many

of these qualities are also exhibited in his more speculative and less personal papers. His recollections of Grote, Charles Austin, and Pattison are full of interesting anecdote and suggestive comment, while those of Babbage, Sir Charles Wheatstone, Dean Stanley, and Canon Kingsley belong to the same order. We can best enforce our favourable judgment of these remarkable volumes by quoting a passage from a letter received from Pattison, to whom he had sent the privately printed edition, which of course did not contain the paper on Pattison himself:—"I should say that the papers on the whole show a union, which is very uncommon, of two opposite qualities—viz., a dominant interest in speculation of a wide and human character, with vast resources, in the memory, of single facts, incidents, or *mots* of famous men. How, with your eyesight, you ever compassed such a range of reading as is here brought to bear at all points of your argument must be a matter of wonder. It seems as if you could draw at pleasure upon all literature, from the classics down to Robert Montgomery and Swinburne." In this judgment we cordially concur.—It should be added that the larger volume, entitled 'Safe Studies,' contains a series of graceful poems by Mrs. Tollemache."—*TIMES*.

"Altogether, we can give very hearty praise to the book, and that is something in the case of matter which has not the charm of novelty to the reviewer, and with a good deal of which he disagrees in opinion. Mr. Tollemache can tell an excellent story (such as that of the young lady who, having spoken enthusiastically about a clergyman, and being asked if she referred to any sermon of his, said, 'No; oh! no. But he hates *mayonnaise*, and so do I.'). He manages, though he himself is very frequently in presence, and the subject of discussion, never to be unpleasantly egotistic. His work has the literary flavour throughout, without being merely bookish, and he can argue a thesis like a craftsman and a master of his craft."—*SATURDAY REVIEW*.

"Mr. Tollemache is one of a fortunate few with whom a certain kind of memory may be said, as Rossetti said of beauty, to be a genius itself. . . . Even the anecdotes, good as they are, have scarcely the same literary value as his rare power of making men and women live before us with all their human charm and weakness, the charm the more real for the supplementary weakness, and the weakness itself winning our attachment in the light of the charm. His truly marvellous memory for details of speech and character may yet keep for us many a little trait, or passing word, which will hereafter be precious."—*SPEAKER*.

"The 'Safe Studies' are those to which it is impossible for any human creature to raise the smallest objection on any ground whatever,

and they are about four times as long as the 'Stones of Stumbling.' These stumbling-blocks may possibly at some period or other have given scandal to a part of the population by no means likely to read them; but in these days the public has swallowed so many camels, that we do not think Mr. Tollemache's gnats would even make any considerable portion of them cough. . . . We propose to make some observations on the most important of these charming essays. They are all singularly well worth reading, and may be described as the works of a most ingenious, accomplished, and cultivated man of leisure, who writes in order to fix recollections and systematize speculations which interest him, and not for the purpose of advocating particular views in the spirit of a partisan or propagandist."—*ST. JAMES'S GAZETTE*.

"He [the author] possesses in a high degree the first requisite of a biographer, the *admiratio Boswelliana*, and he combines with the exact memory of Mr. Hayward some of the sympathetic appreciativeness of Lord Houghton. . . . This (*Stones of Stumbling*) includes the 'Recollections of [Mark] Pattison,' which attracted so much attention on their first appearance in the *Journal of Education*. Together with the notice of Charles Austin (in *Safe Studies*), it must also possess a permanent value, as an unrivalled example of Boswellian portraiture—with the added interest that, in recording the traits of his friends, the author is half-unconsciously revealing some of his own."—*ACADEMY*.

"Since the death of Hayward, we know no English *littérateur* who has, in the same degree as Mr. Tollemache, the happy knack of recollecting or collecting the characteristic sayings and doings of a distinguished man, and piecing them together in a finished mosaic."—*DAILY CHRONICLE*.

"Mr. Tollemache has at last overcome his dislike to publicity, and has given the world at large a series of delightful studies which might otherwise have been well-nigh lost in the sombre and dissipated retirement of a bound periodical. . . . An atmosphere of soft melancholy envelops his treatment; and this melancholy is perhaps the cause of yet another charm. His studies are not only full of 'unfamiliar quotations from familiar authors,' but abound in pleasant and witty digressions."—*NATIONAL OBSERVER*.

"Both these volumes have been previously printed for private circulation, and in this form have found their way to the British Museum and other great libraries. They have now been reprinted and published 'at cost price,' and may almost be said to mark an epoch in the history of cheap books. . . . In all these essays Mr. Tollemache shows himself to be a worthy follower of Boswell, and is content for the most part to

allow his characters to reveal themselves by the anecdotes and fragments of conversation which he is able to report. These are mostly well told and to the point, and make the essays very pleasant reading."—*GUARDIAN*.

"The books, as a whole, give in an agreeable form an outline or suggestion of all that has been most prominent and characteristic for the past twenty or thirty years in the leading currents of speculative thought in England. Though they deal with thorny problems, and sometimes argue closely enough to be hard reading, the essays have the charm which the judicious use of a wide learning gives, and the book is attractive as well as thoughtful and suggestive."—*SCOTSMAN*.

"That Mr. Tollemache has an inexhaustible fund of anecdotes is not saying much; but what is remarkable is the skill, the aptness, the felicity with which he applies them. . . . Mrs. Tollemache's poems are penetrated with a love of nature truly Wordsworthian. . . . It has been long since we read anything so interesting, amusing and delightful as 'Safe Studies.'"—*GALIGNAN'S MESSENGER*.

"The Essays include 'Mr. Tennyson's Social Philosophy,' 'Charles Austin,' 'Physical and Moral Courage,' 'Recollections of Dean Stanley,' and other papers, making one of the most interesting of books. Even more interesting, if possible, are the 'Recollections of [Mark] Pattison,' which form part of the companion volume. . . . There are enough good stories in Mr. Tollemache's Recollections to fill half-a-dozen columns."—*STAR*.

"I find your article [*Fortnightly Review*, July, 1892] charming, and your Whiggism mild. Neither epithet is, I think, exaggerated."—*Letter from Mr. GLADSTONE*.

LONDON :

WILLIAM RICE, 86 FLEET STREET.

[Sold by BRENTANO, 17 Avenue de l'Opéra, Paris, and 5 Union Square, New York.]

STONES OF STUMBLING.

BY THE

HON. LIONEL A. TOLLEMACHE.

II

“Jérusalem est sortie plus brillante et plus belle du travail en apparence destructeur de la science moderne. Les pieux récits dont on berça notre enfance sont devenus, grâce à une saine interprétation, de hautes vérités; et c'est à nous qui voyons Israël dans sa réelle beauté, c'est à nous autres critiques qu'il appartient vraiment de dire: *Stantes erant pedes nostri in atris tuis, Jerusalem.*”—RENAN.



WITH TWO APPENDICES.

LONDON:

WILLIAM RICE, 86 FLEET STREET, E.C.

1893.

T6

LONDON:
PRINTED BY C. F. HODGSON & SON,
NEWTON STREET, HOLBORN, W.C.

73400

PREFACE

TO THE FIRST PUBLISHED EDITION.

Σμικρὸς ἐξαρκεῖ λόγος.—SOPHOCLES.
("A short account suffices.")

In the *Preface to the Published Edition of "Safe Studies,"* I have alluded to the conditions under which my two volumes, after a long process of incubation, or rather of domestic rearing, have been suddenly left to make shift for themselves. Readers of this volume are referred to that Preface, which contains some needful explanations, and is, in fact, an *Apologia pro scriptis meis*.

LIONEL A. TOLLEMACHE.

ATHENÆUM CLUB,
FALL MALL, S.W.
1891.

PREFACE

TO THE SECOND PUBLISHED EDITION.

"In poetry, a certain faith in the impossible, and in religion, a like faith in the unknowable, must have a place."—GOETHE.

In the *Preface to the First Published Edition* of this volume, it is stated that the *Preface to Safe Studies* "contains some needful explanations, and is, in fact, an *Apologia pro scriptis meis*." As, however, I find that many persons who have read *Stones of Stumbling* have not seen *Safe Studies*, or at least have not sought out the "needful explanations," I subjoin, with a few