WHAT IS PRAGMATISM?

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649287086

What is pragmatism? by James Bissett Pratt

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

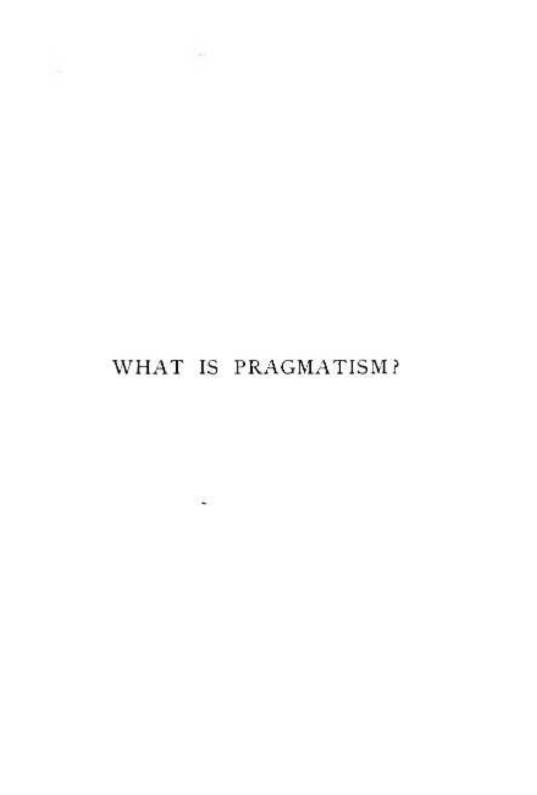
This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this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

www.triestepublishing.com

JAMES BISSETT PRATT

WHAT IS PRAGMATISM?





BY THE SAME AUTHOR "THE PSYCHOLOGY OF RELIGIOUS BELIEF" New York. The Macmillan Company. 1907

WHAT IS PRAGMATISM?

BY

JAMES BISSETT PRATT, Ph.D.

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN WILLIAMS COLLEGE

New Bork THE MACMILLAN COMPANY

1909

All rights reserved

To

JOHN EDWARD RUSSELL

THE KEENEST AND KINDLIEST CRITIC OF PRAGMATISM

THIS BOOK IS INSCRIBED

IN GRATEFUL AND SINCERE AFFECTION

15139

PREFACE

During the spring of 1908 I received an invitation from Mr. Stephen F. Weston to give a course of six lectures the following summer at the Glenmore Summer School, and to choose my own subject. Unfortunately for the school, as it turned out, I decided to make use of the opportunity to say certain things about pragmatism that had long been stirring in my soul; and " Pragmatism, A Critique," was, accordingly, advertised in the circular of the school as the subject of my lectures. I say my choice was unfortunate for the school, for when, after a twenty-mile drive into the heart of the Adirondacks, I reached Glenmore, I found that the patrons of the school had to a man (and almost to a woman) postponed their arrival to the following week, and it looked as if Mr. Weston and myself would

constitute the bulk of the audience. By the help of the neighbors, however, we managed to corral several philosophers who were known to be at large in the mountains, and several lovers of philosophy, who by their kindly interest and helpful suggestions more than made up for the paucity of their numbers. The purpose of the publication of this book is, therefore, to show those who did not go to Glenmore last summer (and this includes a fairly large portion of the human race) how much they missed.

The criticisms of my friends at Glenmore proved decidedly valuable, and the following pages have, therefore, been somewhat recast since I gave the lectures; yet it has seemed advisable to retain the lecture form as best adapted to somewhat popular and informal exposition. For though I have nowhere allowed the desire for simplicity and popularity to interfere with thoroughness of treatment, and though I have used technical language where exactness demanded it, my aim has been throughout to give an exposi-