

**BOOKS IN GENERAL
[SECOND SERIES]**

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Books in general [second series] by Solomon Eagle

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SOLOMON EAGLE

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[SECOND SERIES]**

547
Books in General
By Solomon Eagle

[Second Series]



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TO
DONALD MACAULAY
 IN THE HOPE THAT
 MEETING IN THESE AND SIMILAR PAGES
 SO MANY OF
 HIS BRETHREN
 AMONGST THEM BEING
 DONNE, HERBERT, TRAHERNE, STERNE,
 HERRICK, TAYLOR, SWIFT, HOOKER,
 BURNET, LEWIS CARROLL
 AND
 THE VENERABLE BEDE
 IT MAY OCCUR TO HIM TO WRITE
 A BOOK HIMSELF

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Preface

THESE papers are selections from a series contributed weekly, without intermission, to the *New Statesman* since April, 1913. I do not feel that the responsibility for reprinting them rests on my shoulders; I trust that where it does rest it will rest lightly. I shall have done all I hope to do if I have produced the sort of book that one reads in, without tedium, for ten minutes before one goes to sleep.

The pseudonym "Solomon Eagle," I may explain, is not intended to posit any claim to unusual wisdom or abnormally keen sight. The original bearer of the name was a poor maniac who, during the Great Plague of London, used to run naked through the street, with a pan of coals of fire on his head, crying "Repent, repent."

This preface was written for, and printed in, the first series of these reprints. As it is accurate and I have nothing to add to it, I thought it would do again now.

S. E.

Contents

- The Descendants of Shakespeare, 11
The Diary of Charles Pooter, 17
Thomas Traherne, 23
Scientific Management for Pegasus, 29
The New Browning Poems, 35
Pidgin-English for Germans, 40
Signor Marinetti's Masterpiece, 44
Fitzgerald's Second Thoughts, 48
Property in Proper Names, 53
The Inferior Poems of Keats, 58
One's Favourite Author Defined, 63
Swinburne's Vocabulary, 66
Blake and His Myths, 69—
Mutual Compliments, 75
Invective, 77
A Picture of Chaos, 81
Shelley's Letters, 86
On Cleaning Books, 90
The Essay in America, 95
The Prices of Restoration Books, 101
The Humours of Hymnology, 107
A Dreadful Story, 111
Dr. Donne's Tomb, 115
Russian Wit, 119
The Goncourt Journal in English, 120
Poland and Our Poets, 126

Contents

- Literature and the Advertiser, 131
Cobbett as Housekeeper, 134
Autography, 138
A Forgotten Caroline, 140
The Diarist in our Midst, 145
A Parody in Slang, 150
Dialect in Literature, 152
Greene's Groatworth, 157
James Whitcomb Riley, 163
Edinburgh: The Missing Monument, 169
Verhaeren, 174
A Shakespeare MS.? 177
A Seaside Library, 180
A Voice from the Past, 185
Francis Thompson's Method, 191
Tobacco, 194
Charles Churchill, 203
Commonplace Books, 207
The Songs of the Trenches, 212
The Limits of Imitation, 218
Mr. Lloyd George as a Vers-Librist, 223
William Cartwright, 228
On Submitting Manuscripts, 233
Mr. H. G. Wells and Lord Tennyson, 238
The Statistics of Genius, 244
Coleridge at Table, 250
Fragments of China, 254
Rupert Brooke in Retrospect, 256
Mr. Max Beerbohm's Idyll, 262
Fire and the Heart of Man, 268