

# **ELEMENTS OF PSYCHOLOGY**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649572274

Elements of Psychology by Henry N. Day

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**HENRY N. DAY**

**ELEMENTS OF  
PSYCHOLOGY**



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PSYCHOLOGY.

BY  
HENRY N. DAY,  
AUTHOR OF "LOGIC," "MORAL SCIENCE," "ÆSTHETICS," "ART  
OF DISCOURSE," ETC.

NEW YORK:  
G. P. PUTNAM'S SONS,  
182 FIFTH AVENUE.  
1876

## P R E F A C E.

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THE governing aim in the preparation of this work has been to furnish a suitable text-book for beginners in metaphysical studies. It has been written predominantly for use in the class-room; and is designed to serve as introductory both to the higher and more critical discussions of the phenomena of mind usually given in the lectures at colleges and universities and also to the study of the derived sciences of logic, ethics, and æsthetics. With these three sciences, which form what has been denominated by Sir William Hamilton Nomological Psychology, its subject matter makes up the entire circle of the mental sciences.

In preparing the work, the general field of psychological literature, as it has been cultivated up to the present time in this country, in Great Britain, and in continental Europe, has been studiously explored, so that all the established results of the most recent investigations might be incorporated into it. This accumulated mass of knowledge, the endeavor has been to reduce into a strictly systematic and scientific form, a form that is indeed the simplest for apprehension by others when attained, but the latest and most difficult of attainment in the progress of science. Something more than accurate presenta-

tions of the observed facts of mental action, something more than generalizations of these facts under their appropriate heads, has been aimed at. The endeavor has been to reduce these generalized facts to the exactness of scientific system, in which all the parts are exhibited in their organic interdependence and relation both to the common whole and to one another. The phenomena of mind are thus presented as the manifestations, the affections and the operations, of a single active nature in the diversity of its functions and of its relations to the beings and objects to which it is related. The general attributes of the human mind having been enumerated and explained, the particular phenomena of mental activity, the facts of sensibility, intelligence, and will, are exhibited as the states of a single active nature which, while revealing more prominently and characteristically sometimes this and sometimes that side of its composite life, never wholly drops out of its phenomenal action any constituent element of its being.

The particular phenomena of mind as classified subjectively by psychologists generally at the present time under the departments of intelligence, sensibility, and will, are in this work treated in the light of their respective relation and correspondence to the old and still unquestioned classes of phenomena handed down to us from antiquity under the objective enumeration of the True, the Beautiful, and the Good. Psychological science, in the light of this correspondence, it is believed, is enabled to exhibit its phenomena in a new clearness and impressiveness.

The order of treatment, hitherto adopted, has been in this work varied by giving priority to the department of the sensibility before that of the intelligence. This is unquestionably the order of natural manifestation, as we must have sense of an object—must be impressed by it—before we can think of it. This natural order, as might be anticipated, prevents much obscurity and confusion and consequent error in the explanation of certain mental states, particularly those of the imagination and memory. These two states have been generally, and of course very erroneously, presented under the intelligence or cognitive function.

Further, the department of the sensibility has been treated with more fullness and more scientific method than has been usual heretofore. This department has been far less cultivated than the departments of the intelligence and the will. Yet even these functions are so closely and vitally related to that of the sensibility that they cannot be fully and accurately shown except in their relation of interdependence to the sensibility.

This elementary work in mental science is contributed to our text-book literature, in the earnest hope that it may be found to be serviceable in some degree to the elevation of the study of mind to its true and proper rank in the circle of educational studies.

NEW HAVEN, February, 1876.



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