

**IN THE  
THREE ZONES**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649270330

In the three zones by F. J. Stimson

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Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.  
Cover @ 2017

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**F. J. STIMSON**

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THREE ZONES**



## In the Three Zones

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BY

F. J. STIMSON

*(J. S. of Dale)*

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DR. MATERIALISMUS

HIS HYPOTHESIS WORKED OUT

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I SHOULD like some time to tell how Tetherby came to his end ; he, too, was a victim of materialism, as his father had been before him ; but when he died, he left this story, addressed among his papers to me ; and I am sure he meant that all the world (or such part of it as cares to think) should know it. He had told it, or partly told it, to us before ; in fragments, in suggestions, in those midnight talks that earnest young men still have in college, or had, in 1870.

Tetherby came from that strange, cold, Maine coast, washed in its fjords and beaches by a clear, cold sea, which brings it fogs of winter but never haze of summer ; where men eat little, think much, drink only water, and yet live intense lives ; where the village people, in their long winters away from the world, in an age of revivals had their waves of atheism, and would transform, in those days, their pine meeting-houses into Shakspeare clubs, and logically make a cult of

infidelity; now, with railways, I suppose all that has ceased; they read Shakspeare as little as the scriptures, and the Sunday newspaper replaces both. Such a story—such an imagination—as Tetherby's, could not happen now—perhaps. But they take life earnestly in that remote, ardent province; they think coldly; and, when you least expect it, there comes in their lives, so hard and sharp and practical, a burst of passion.

He came to Newbridge to study law, and soon developed a strange faculty for debate. The first peculiarity was his name—which first appeared and was always spelled, C. S. J. J. Tetherby in the catalogue, despite the practice, which was to spell one's name in full. Of course, speculation was rife as to the meaning of this portentous array of initials; and soon, after his way of talk was known, arose a popular belief that they stood for nothing less than Charles Stuart Jean Jacques. Nothing less would justify the intense leaning of his mind, radical as it was, for all that was mystical, ideal, old. But afterwards we learned that he had been so named by his curious father, Colonel Sir John Jones, after a supposed loyalist ancestor, who had