

PSYCHOLOGY AND FOLK-LORE

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Psychology and folk-lore by R. R. Marrett

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R. R. MARRETT

**PSYCHOLOGY
AND FOLK-LORE**

PSYCHOLOGY AND FOLK-LORE

BY THE SAME AUTHOR
THE THRESHOLD OF RELIGION

PSYCHOLOGY AND FOLK-LORE

BY

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TO
MY PUPILS

PREFACE

I AM not sure whether these addresses, essays, and reviews are worth the republishing ; but I hope that they are. To attend to one's subject during the War was not easy. Yet the very confusion of the times made thinking necessary, if only in order that the mind might keep its bearings during the storm. For the same reason one's thought tended to dwell on first principles. These are none too steadfast, to be sure, in such a new and complex science as anthropology. But to find them to be relatively stable, or at any rate to seek how they could be made so, proved comforting to me. In the hope, therefore, that others have also of late been examining foundations with similar results, I venture to appeal to their sympathetic attention.

I apologize to any reader who is troubled by echoes of the spoken word in these pages. It is hard to turn a lecture into an article without taking half the life out of it ; and so I have changed nothing, not even suppressing a few passages of an occasional character. Anyone with imagination can make the necessary allowances.

The title is borrowed from the first paper, but provides a fair notion of the general scope of the book. The prevailing interest is throughout psychological ; and whatever is not folk-lore in the strict sense belongs at least to anthropology.