

**THE MISSING SENSE: AND THE
HIDDEN THINGS WHICH IT MIGHT
REVEAL: SPIRITUAL PHILOSOPHY
TREATED ON A RATIONAL BASIS**

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The Missing Sense: And the Hidden Things Which It Might Reveal: Spiritual Philosophy
Treated on a Rational Basis by C. W. Wooldridge

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C. W. WOOLDRIDGE

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THE
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AND

*THE HIDDEN THINGS WHICH IT MIGHT
REVEAL.*

SPIRITUAL PHILOSOPHY

TREATED

ON A RATIONAL BASIS.

BY

*Charles
William*
C. W. WOOLDRIDGE, B.S.; M.D.

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PREFACE.

SOME thoughts are like children—the mind that conceives them must bring them forth or perish. This, the fact that the writer's mind was burdened with the message contained in these pages, is the prime reason why this little book is written. The main purpose of the book is to show, from observed fact and necessary reason, the existence and reality of spiritual intelligence apart from matter.

As to whether we have succeeded in this or not the book must speak for itself. On this point the first chapter tells the story. Beyond this we have on the same basis attempted to examine the functions and scope of spirit, and the relations of the present life to the life beyond, having ascertained the reality of spirit and a future life before indulging in speculations about them.

There are many who hold our main conclusions to be true, at least so far as man is concerned, resting their assurance on a basis of faith alone; many other minds are not able to rest with confidence on an assurance of immortality which is based on faith, and, lacking convincing reasons to found it on, the majority of these are without any such assurance.

The first class, perhaps, if their assurance is wholly sufficient and satisfactory to themselves, do not for their own sakes need such an argument as this, though possibly it might be of value to them in their associations with others to know that the truths they believe may be reached by a path which they have not been accustomed

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to follow. Of the second class, some who have adopted and confirmed themselves in the materialistic view will read our argument, and, doubtless, remain unconvinced ; but some, let us hope, will find in this train of thought the assurance beyond all value which the writer has found in it for himself. If so, our work is not in vain.

In considering the hereafter, and the relations of the present life to the life beyond on the basis of reason and not of faith, let no one think we are attacking the religion that he holds sacred. We are attacking no one's religion ; we would not willingly shake the faith of any one who has a religious faith on which he rests with confidence and satisfaction ; we would strengthen it, if possible, so far as it gives him assurance of what is true. Let such hold their faith ; they should regard with satisfaction the fact that we reach some of the same conclusions that they hold to be true, though we reach them by a road that they have not travelled.

Perhaps they do not need our work, but we have done what we could for those—and there are many such—who cannot rest in faith, but for whom reason must be the final arbiter of truth. For them we have worked out as we could a rationalist's faith.

October 1, 1887.

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THE MISSING SENSE.

CHAPTER I.

THE UNSEEN UNIVERSE.

THINKERS are naturally divided into two great schools, materialists and spiritualists.

Between these schools of thought there is a great question at issue.

Scientific research, the loyal and faithful study of facts, is the method by which both schools should seek the truth, which is the reality underlying, determining, and causing all appearances.

The materialist is rather prone to write and speak as if his school of thought were pre-eminently scientific, as if all others were prejudiced by the influence of an effete theology and so bound in the trammels of moribund creeds that they are incapable of considering facts with clearness of mind, and interpreting them correctly at their proper value in revealing the uncolored truth.

Yet the tendency of scientific research of late years is far from being all in the direction of materialism. Among the deepest students of nature, including some of the world's most eminent chemists and physicists, astronomers, spectroscopists, and philosophers, the idea has grown from a suspicion almost to a conviction that the elementary forms of matter as known to chemistry