

**CORONA: THE BRIGHT
SIDE OF THE UNIVERSE:
STUDIES IN OPTIMISM**

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Corona: The Bright Side of the Universe: Studies in Optimism by F. T. Mott

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THE BRIGHT SIDE
OF THE
UNIVERSE.

STUDIES IN OPTIMISM.

BY
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F.R.G.S.

LONDON:—WILLIAMS & NORGATE, 14, HENRIETTA STREET,
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10-26-38 J.A.

I DEDICATE THIS BOOK TO THE GRAND OLD STATESMAN
WHOSE CAREER BEARS SUCH EMPHATIC WITNESS TO THE
CONTINUOUS EVOLUTION OF THE HUMAN SOUL, THE WIDENING
OF ITS INTELLECTUAL VISION AND THE EXALTATION OF ITS
NOBLEST EMOTIONS, EVEN TO THE LAST YEARS OF LIFE.

F. T. M.

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Preface.

THE civilized world has been passing through a cold wave of materialism due, no doubt, in some degree, to the necessary concentration of scientific thought upon the physical aspect of the universe. There are many indications that this wave is now passing away, that a brighter time is coming, a time of renewed and happy faith in the beauty of the universe and the goodness of God, a faith which in all its past phases has raised the level of social life, and

in its coming phase shall again raise it one step nearer to the ever-widening ideal.

Science, dealing only with the external world, is like an astronomer attempting to explain the solar system without reference to the sun. Physics must go hand in hand with metaphysics. Matter can only be explained in terms of mind, as prose is made luminous by poetry.

I have not in these pages set forth a complete body of philosophy, but have endeavoured to put light into a number of dark subjects in a popular and suggestive way, and to lead my readers, if I have any, into a region of thought in which the acceptance of all the discoveries of science can only strengthen and enlarge the soul's high trust in God.

I have purposely mingled the intellectual and the emotional aspects of existence, because I am sure that both are needed for obtaining a true insight into man's nature and position.

Birstal Hill,

Leicester.

Standing by the antique dial
On the terrace green,
Depths of gloom on either hand
And sunny slopes between ;

With his fair young head unshaded
And his eyes a-flame
From the fire of inspiration,
Lit at Love's great name ;

Gazing far into the soul-land,
Rapt with ecstasies,
Prophet of the golden future
Open thou our eyes !