

**THE GOOD MAN AND THE
GOOD: AN
INTRODUCTION TO ETHICS**

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The Good Man and the Good: An Introduction to Ethics by Mary Whiton Calkins

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THE GOOD MAN
AND THE GOOD

AN INTRODUCTION TO ETHICS

BY

MARY WHITON CALKINS

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"A FIRST BOOK IN PSYCHOLOGY," "THE
PERSISTENT PROBLEMS OF PHILOSOPHY"

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MATRI CARISSIMAE
CHARLOTTE WHITON CALKINS
BONITATIS EXEMPLO DULCISSIMO

PREFACE

The underlying purpose of this book is to treat ethics as the study of live men—of willing, struggling human beings, loyal or disloyal, brave or cowardly, just or unjust. To state this purpose in other words: the book does not conceive ethics as a science of abstractions—of duty, goodness, virtue, or values—but as the science of the dutiful, the good, the virtuous man and his object. Thus concretely conceived, ethics is an inevitable outlet of psychology and an essential source of sociological science.

Against one anticipated misconception it is perhaps permissible to guard in advance. Though the book has to do with 'the good man' it should not be set down as a 'subjectivistic' treatment of ethics. In one sense, to be sure, like all genuinely ethical doctrine, it certainly is subjectivistic since the radiating centre of every moral, every religious—in truth, of every personal—situation is an individual self. But though the book concerns the good man yet, as its title suggests, it also discusses *the good*, the object of the good man's will. And this object it conceives in wholly and unambiguously social terms.

It is hoped that the serious 'general reader' as well as the college student, may find in the book some incentive to his thinking on problems of personal conduct and of social reconstruction. To meet the need of this busy