

# **THE TRUE SPHERE OF THE BLIND**

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The true sphere of the blind by E. B. F. Robinson

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**E. B. F. ROBINSON**

**THE TRUE SPHERE  
OF THE BLIND**





E. B. F. ROBINSON, B.A.

# THE TRUE SPHERE OF THE BLIND.

BY

E. B. F. ROBINSON, B.A.,

PHILOSOPHY PRIZEMAN OF TRINITY  
UNIVERSITY IN 1893.

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## PREFACE.

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**B**LINDNESS, although of frequent occurrence in particular families, does not affect a very large percentage of the total number, so that nothing approaching a general interest is taken in the blind. As I have undertaken, then, to write and to have published a book which, by my own confession, does not deal with a subject of general interest, it seems to me that a few remarks regarding the aim of the work are necessary.

The chief aim of the book is set forth in its title. I believe "The True Sphere of the Blind" to be in those vocations which require mental activity rather than manual skill for their successful prosecution. By a careful psychological analysis I show that blindness renders possible a more intense mental life, and by an examination of the attempts to employ them at trades I find that, as a matter of fact, the blind are unfit for such pursuits.

The other important objects are : To furnish a guide to the correct way to deal with blindness and the blind, to point out the danger threatening the eyes of the people



through our educational system, and to name the conditions and plans upon which the amelioration of the blind depends.

This book is necessarily deficient in a variety of ways. The comparatively small extent of my own experience, and the almost total lack of reliable statistics and information, render it difficult for me to be exact. There are very few works dealing with the subject, and these few are too old to be more than of historic interest. I acknowledge indebtedness to the late Dr. Armitage's excellent work on "The Education and Employment of the Blind;" to Levy's book on "Blindness and the Blind;" to the articles on "Blindness" in the various Encyclopædias; and for my chapter on the "Diseases of the Eye" to Dr. Minor's article on "Blindness," in the Reference Handbook of the Medical Sciences. For my account of the American institutions, I have relied mainly on their official reports. In my "Psychological Analysis" I have followed the order of treatment of the subject in Professor John Dewey's "Psychology," and I have also been indebted for some valuable suggestions to Professor Mark Baldwin's "Psychology."

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