

**DR. MARTINEAU'S
PHILOSOPHY:
A SURVEY**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649565566

Dr. Martineau's Philosophy: A Survey by Charles B. Upton

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CHARLES B. UPTON

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DR. ^{James}MARTINEAU'S
PHILOSOPHY

A SURVEY

BY
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"BASES OF RELIGIOUS BELIEF"

REVISED EDITION
WITH AN INTRODUCTORY ESSAY

London
JAMES NISBET & CO., LIMITED
21 BERNERS STREET
1905

Printed by BALLANTYNE, HARRISON & Co.
At the Ballantyne Press

PREFACE

A SURVEY OF DR. MARTINEAU'S PHILOSOPHICAL WORK

THIS attempt to depict the philosophical side of Dr. Martineau's long and influential life calls for a few words of explanation. To show why circumstances have given me some little advantage for the execution of this task, I may be allowed to give a brief quotation from a paper contributed to the Memorial Number of the "Inquirer" at the time of Dr. Martineau's decease, with the additional remark that from 1853 to 1859 I was a student in Manchester New College and attended Dr. Martineau's College Lectures:—

"In 1875 I was invited to become one of the teaching-staff of the College, where for ten years I had the advantage of intercourse with my revered teacher, who was then the Principal. A new and most precious opportunity of gaining further insight into Dr. Martineau's thought and personal character was at this time afforded me by the great kindness of Dr. Martineau and his family; for at their invitation I for about twenty years spent two or three weeks of my annual holiday at Dr. Martineau's charming Highland home in Rothiemurchus Forest. And here I feel quite ashamed to say how, in my great eagerness to get light thrown by Dr. Martineau on all my mental perplexities, I used to ask philosophical questions in season and out of season, introducing the subject now at meal times, and now again when we were toiling up the steep sides of mighty Cairngorm or Ben-muick-dhui. I well deserved to

PREFACE

be snubbed for these unseasonable obtrusions of my favourite topic; but never shall I forget the indulgent patience with which the Doctor heard and replied to the several statements of my difficulties. In later years I, at times, ventured to differ from him on some points, and he considered that my views sometimes came dangerously near to Pantheism; but nothing could exceed the courtesy and kindness with which he listened to my arguments and gave me in return his well-weighed opinion."

As I copy these words my heart is sorely saddened by the thought that since they were written the daughter, whose thoughtful mind and ever-ready kindness added so much to the pleasure and interest of these mountain excursions, has followed her dearly-loved father into the Unseen World.

The chief points of my philosophical talks with Dr. Martineau I was accustomed to write down at the close of the day, and in a few cases I have ventured in the following chapters to state opinions of his which I have become acquainted with only in this way. In the fifth chapter a brief reference is made to the chief matters of controversy between us in these frequent conversations. I may mention that I am not the only person who has enjoyed the privilege of combining mountain-climbing with metaphysical discussion in company with Dr. Martineau; for I remember hearing from a distinguished young Hegelian professor of philosophy how Dr. Martineau and he debated the fundamental principles of Absolute Idealism in the course of a long day's excursion to the top of Scafell Pike.

It may be desirable to refer to the obvious fact that in the accounts of Dr. Martineau's larger treatises given in

PREFACE

the sixth, seventh, and eighth chapters, the necessities of space have compressed the description within very narrow limits. What has been attempted is to give an outline of the main argument, along with some illustrations of Dr. Martineau's style, and a reference to the more important of the criticisms which some of his views have evoked. My chief aim has been to make these chapters, and as far as possible the others also, both an inducement and a help to first-hand study of the original works.

I take this opportunity of expressing my hearty thanks to the many friends who, by lending me letters and in other ways, have given me help. I am particularly indebted to the Rev. Alexander Gordon for valuable information concerning the early history of Manchester College and some other matters. Grateful acknowledgment is also due from me to the Clarendon Press of Oxford for their kindness in allowing me to quote passages from "A Study of Religion" and "Types of Ethical Theory."

CHARLES B. UPTON.

ST. GEORGE'S, LITTLEMORE, NEAR OXFORD,
May 1, 1902.

PREFACE TO THE SECOND EDITION

To the present edition I have prefixed an Introductory Essay, in which an attempt is made to set forth the bearing of Dr. Martineau's thought on the more prominent recent forms of the philosophy of religion.

I wish to add, in regard to a statement made on p. 33,
vii

PREFACE TO SECOND EDITION

attributing to Dr. J. D. Morell an article on "Atheism" in the "National Review" for January 1856, that Mr. A. W. Benn, M.A., of Florence, has pointed out that this statement is incorrect. The article in question is not the manuscript article by Dr. Morell, referred to in Dr. Martineau's letter:—

"It is from the pen of Mr. R. H. Hutton, who subsequently acknowledged the authorship by reprinting a portion of it in his 'Theological Essays.' Morell's paper was apparently rejected in deference to Martineau's criticism. At any rate, it never appeared in the 'National.'"

CHARLES B. UPTON.

St. GEORGE'S, LITTLEMORE,
July 1, 1905.

CONTENTS

	PAGE
PREFACE	v
PREFACE TO SECOND EDITION	vii
INTRODUCTORY ESSAY	xi
<small>CHAP.</small>	
I. THE HARTLEYAN PERIOD OF DR. MARTINEAU'S PHILOSOPHY	1
II. THE LECTURES IN MANCHESTER NEW COLLEGE	21
III. EARLY REVIEWS. CORRESPONDENCE WITH PROF. F. W. NEWMAN	46
IV. STUDIES IN BERLIN. LETTERS TO REV. J. H. THOM AND MR. R. H. HUTTON	73
V. "ESSAYS, REVIEWS, AND ADDRESSES." THE META- PHYSICAL AND SYNTHETIC SOCIETIES	92
VI. "TYPES OF ETHICAL THEORY"	124
VII. "A STUDY OF RELIGION"	154
VIII. "A STUDY OF SPINOZA." CRITICISM OF PANTHEISM AND DETERMINISM	195
IX. APPRECIATIONS AND CRITICISMS	215
INDEX	231