

# **THE NEW PHILOSOPHY**

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The New Philosophy by Arthur Crane

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**ARTHUR CRANE**

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PHILOSOPHY**



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BY  
ARTHUR CRANE

*Arthur Crane*

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## CHAPTER I.

### THE ORDER OF THE INFINITE.

THE foundation of all things is to be found in the finest essence of substance. That is simply to say that the order of cause and effect is that the finer, more concentrated force is the cause of all phenomena and that coarser things are not causes at all.

Let us examine this sweeping statement more closely, for if it is found to be true it will overturn much that troubles us in our preconceived notions.

In the first place it must be admitted that the reality of things is not necessarily identical with the seeming. Then it must be understood that, whatever the "seeming" may be, the reality is bound to be in accord with its cause—as light, for instance, cannot cause darkness. Our eyes see wood, stone, metal and flesh, but it is impossible for any one of these to be in itself the fountain head of the things we know without the use of eyes—such as consciousness and love. Our ears hear sounds, our fingers feel surfaces, our palates taste sugar, but we know, without being told, that these are the effects which our own sense distinguishes and not causes. Would sugar be sweet if no palate ever tasted it? Or if all the palates that ever existed were so different to those we know that sugar tasted sour to them, and had always done so, would the sweetness of sugar have any reality? Assuredly not.

For the sake of comparison let us assume that there are different degrees of the fineness of essence of substance—by which is meant the reality which is the foundation of all phenomena. Let us also adopt as far as possible the scale which scientists use to express the fineness of that essence in so far as it applies to the reality behind electrical phenomena. This scale they call "voltage."

The study of matter, dividing and sub-dividing minute particles to find out what they were really made of, has led the scientists to theoretically divide it into molecules and—still smaller—atoms. These atoms are themselves made up, the scientists tell us, of myriads of infinitely small particles revolving with more or less rapidity, and these they call "electrons" or electrical units. Matter, therefore, is according to them, the phenomena which results from the lowest voltage of the essence of substance.

In electricity certain laws of voltage have been discovered which should help us to understand the true inwardness of all voltage.

One is that the higher the voltage the more unrestrained the movement of the electricity. That which is used for electric light being of higher voltage than that used for a telephone, the latter requires a larger wire for less work. It does not surprise us then to learn from the scientists that matter which flows freely, such as gas and liquid, is supposed to be of not quite so low a voltage as that which does not do so, such as minerals. Marconi was depending on this law when he discovered that with a very high voltage of electricity no wire is needed at all.

Another law well established is that by means of a "transformer," a quantity of electricity at, say, 100 volts measure of fineness of inherent energy, can be changed into half the quantity at 200 volts fineness. Now, what is called "organic matter," whether tree, cabbage, flesh or brain, is the same thing as the transformer, the object being to transform the lower voltages

or vibrations into the higher. Again then it is not surprising that the discovery should have been made that THOUGHT itself is a higher voltage of exactly the same thing as electricity.

A third law is that wherever there is electricity of whatever voltage, what is called negative electricity of the same apparent voltage is induced. There is no reality at all in this negative electricity. It is like a shadow which dodges the footsteps of the positive substance. It is like darkness which ever lurks the blackest round the corner from the brightest light. It seems to exist, it seems to threaten and it seems to attack. When the positive voltage of real idea rises to its sublimest heights, this negative seeming seems at its worst and that is why the idealist is sometimes also a pessimist.

These three laws are as certain and as well established as is any law of mathematics, and from them can be gleaned all the philosophy necessary for the proper conduct of life.

As to health, we can see that to be a transformer producing real thought is normal, while to produce negative thoughts—thoughts of evil or discord—could only be expected to injure or weaken the transformer. Body and brain—so easily injured in the production of discord—should not be allowed to produce a single negative thought. A healthy mind makes a healthy body.

As to all mental phenomena, such as seeing a distant friend at some moment of great excitement, as at the time of his death, it is obvious that such high voltage as thought can travel as readily a thousand miles as one. When the human battery and transformer gives off a thought-force, that subtle wave instantaneously reaches any other individual mind attuned to receive it.

The scientific view is that the "ion" or "electron" is the infinitely small unit of all that is, and even of all positive thought. Now as we have seen that "evil" is only the negative or nightmare of life, the positive of life must be good. Therefore, according to the scientific view, the "ion" is the infinitely