

**ENGLISH
EVOLUTIONARY
ETHICS: A THESIS**

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English Evolutionary Ethics: A Thesis by Melbourne Stuart Read

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MELBOURNE STUART READ

**ENGLISH
EVOLUTIONARY
ETHICS: A THESIS**

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ENGLISH EVOLUTIONARY ETHICS //

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A THESIS

PRESENTED TO THE FACULTY OF CORNELL UNIVERSITY
IN FULFILLMENT OF A PART OF THE REQUIRE-
MENTS FOR THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF
PHILOSOPHY, MAY, 1895

BY

MELBOURNE STUART READ

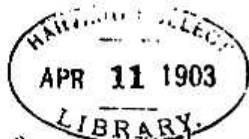
SOMETIME SCHOLAR AND FELLOW IN THE SAGE
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Wacker, Fred

PREFACE.

It is not altogether satisfactory to publish a thesis nearly seven years after writing it. The problem is presented of maintaining practically the same arguments and conclusions which were then held, and at the same time to be true to one's present thought. In the solution of this difficulty, there has been a partial rearrangement of the material, and the concluding chapter of each part has been somewhat modified. Yet the thesis remains practically as it was at first presented. The slight modifications are, it is hoped in the direction of real progress in thought in the intervening years, and the writer has no intention of disowning his product. A present writing *de novo* would furnish, however, a somewhat different work, especially taking into account, and profiting by, several important works on various phases of the subject which have more recently appeared. Chapters I, II, III, V, VI, and VII are in part expository and in part critical, while Chapters IV and VIII are intended to mark an advance and to be suggestive of doctrine.

The writer has departed somewhat from the usual custom in not using quotation marks, and in not giving page and line references in exposition. The works referred to are so well known, and the exposition carried on to such an extent, that even though the language of the original has been used constantly, it would seem unnecessary and even pedantic to formally credit the references.

I wish to acknowledge my deep obligation to President Jacob Gould Shurman, my teacher and inspirer in ethical study, while this thesis was being prepared. I also wish to express my appreciation of the leniency of the Cornell

Preface

University Faculty in allowing postponement of publication so long. The writer would not have availed himself of this, had it not been for the exacting duties of a general chair of Philosophy.

MELBOURNE STUART READ

Colgate University
Hamilton, New York
March, 1902

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