

**EDUCATION AND  
THE PHILOSOPHICAL  
IDEAL**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649114658

Education and the philosophical ideal by Horatio W. Dresser

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.  
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

[www.triestepublishing.com](http://www.triestepublishing.com)

**HORATIO W. DRESSER**

**EDUCATION AND  
THE PHILOSOPHICAL  
IDEAL**



BY  
**HORATIO W. DRESSER**

Methods and Problems of Spiritual Healing.	
12° . . . . .	\$1.00
The Power of Silence.	
12° . . . . .	\$1.25
The Perfect Whole.	
12° . . . . .	\$1.25
Voices of Hope.	
12° . . . . .	\$1.25
In Search of a Soul.	
12° . . . . .	\$1.25
Voices of Freedom.	
With portrait, 12° . . . . .	\$1.25
Education and the Philosophical Ideal.	
12° . . . . .	\$
Living by the Spirit.	
Oblong 24° . . . . .	.75
The Heart of It.	
16° . . . . .	.75

**G. P. PUTNAM'S SONS**

**New York**

**London**

EDUCATION  
AND THE  
PHILOSOPHICAL IDEAL

BY

HORATIO W. DRESSER

Author of "The Power of Silence," "The Perfect Whole,"  
"Voices of Freedom," "Living by the Spirit," etc.

---

"You shall educate me, not as you will, but as I will."—*Emerson*

---



G. P. PUTNAM'S SONS  
NEW YORK AND LONDON  
The Knickerbocker Press  
1900

LB875  
D7A2

GENERAL *George*

COPYRIGHT, 1900

By HORATIO WILLIS DRESSER

Entered at Stationers' Hall, London

By G. P. PUTNAM'S SONS

The Knickerbocker Press, New York

## PREFACE

THE doctrine of this book is not put forward as a mere theory of education. In its pages education passes imperceptibly into life, and life becomes philosophical. Its theory is therefore rather an appeal to all that is noblest in life than a detailed educational scheme. The main thesis is that life itself is educational, that the individual possesses instincts which, if freely followed, lead the way to fullest self-expression and the service of humanity. Books, education, and experience furnish the occasion, put the soul in self-command; the soul is the consequential factor. All life should therefore be adapted with the spiritual ideal in view. Self-knowledge, self-discipline, and self-mastery are of more importance than any knowledge which the teacher can give. To these the soul should be free to add such educational opportunities as it demands. Thus to choose and thus to help, every soul, every teacher, must understand life philosophically, must dedicate his life to the Spirit. The educational ideal is thereby absorbed into the larger ideal of the spiritual life. Thus considering it, I have ventured even to include immortality as essential to this broader point of view. The value



found in this book will accordingly depend far more upon the reader's philosophical ability and spiritual experience than upon the knowledge of conventional theories and methods of education.

It is always difficult to classify those who are on the move. But if after reading deeply in Chapters XI. and XII. the reader still persists in classifying this book, let him put it down as the work of an independent philosophical student who writes because he must. Yet the spiritual ideal for which the book was chiefly written appears least in these philosophical chapters. The deeper doctrine is stated in its most philosophical form in Chapter XIII. But the reader will be glad to turn from this more technical discussion to the chapter on immortality, in which the spiritual ideal is given its broadest and most human expression. With the exception of the last chapter, and portions of a few others, the book is wholly new, scarcely a page having appeared in print in its present form. The book occupies an independent position, and, although a logical outgrowth of them, is not to be judged by previous volumes, or by reference to any particular doctrine of which the author is thought to be an exponent. What is true, is true in its own right; and because an author reveals leanings, it does not follow that he accepts all the tenets of a sect with which he is sometimes classed.

BOSTON, July, 1900.

## CONTENTS

CHAPTER	PAGE
INTRODUCTION . . . . .	I
I. THE NEW POINT OF VIEW . . . . .	10
II. EDUCATIONAL IDEALS . . . . .	18
III. EQUANIMITY . . . . .	31
IV. THE SUBCONSCIOUS MIND . . . . .	52
V. THE SPIRITUAL IDEAL IN CHILDHOOD . . . . .	73
VI. AN EXPERIMENT IN EDUCATION . . . . .	93
VII. THE EXPRESSION OF THE SPIRIT . . . . .	112
VIII. AN IDEAL SUMMER CONFERENCE . . . . .	125
IX. THE MINISTRY OF THE SPIRIT . . . . .	136
X. THE MYSTERY OF PAIN AND EVIL . . . . .	143
XI. THE PHILOSOPHICAL IDEAL . . . . .	153
XII. THE CRITERIA OF TRUTH . . . . .	173
XIII. ORGANIC PERFECTION . . . . .	197
XIV. IMMORTALITY . . . . .	221
INDEX . . . . .	247

