# RELIGIO DOCTORIS: MEDITATIONS UPON LIFE AND THOUGHT BY A RETIRED COLLEGE PRESIDENT

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Religio Doctoris: Meditations Upon Life and Thought by a Retired College President by Frederic William Sanders & G. Stanley Hall

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### FREDERIC WILLIAM SANDERS & G. STANLEY HALL

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### RELIGIO DOCTORIS

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## MEDITATIONS UPON LIFE AND THOUGHT BY A RETIRED COLLEGE PRESIDENT

WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY G. STANLEY HALL, Ph.D., LL.D.

I look for the New Teacher that shall ... show that the Ought, that Duty, is one thing with Science, with Beauty, and with Joy.—Emerson.



RICHARD G. BADGER THE GORHAM PRESS BOSTON

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#### TO

## CHARLES WILLIAM ELIOT, LL. D.

#### THE LAYMAN IN RELIGION AND IN PHILOSOPHY

whose election to the presidency of Harvard College resulted in the creation of the greatest university in the New World

THIS TRIBUTE AND APPEAL TO THE SANITY OF THE LAY MIND

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DEDICATED

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#### INTRODUCTION

The author of these essays, many years ago my student and friend, a man of culture, personal charm, and with special training in philosophy, lived for some time in the expectation of speedy death. In this condition he sought to fortify his own soul by formulating his personal convictions, in non-technical terms, concerning the supreme problems of human life. This he was able to do with a candor unalloyed by all prudential considerations as to how utter frankness, so often dangerous to men in his vocation, would affect his future career. Since his partial convalescence he has decided,— upon the advice and wish of his friends,—wisely and well, as I, and I believe all his readers will think, to make public these meditations, in the modest hope that they will interest and benefit others who are inclined to face seriously the problems of life, mind, and destiny.

In the first essay the argument succinctly stated is that right thinking is necessary to right living, and that, as the ethical idea is the only working hypothesis for the right conduct of life, this latter must be based upon a consideration of all the facts that enter into it. The next world must not dominate this, and there must be no "double housekeeping." Perhaps the writer would not approve the slogan, "One world at a time, gentlemen, and this one now;" but no real good