

THE EVOLUTION OF AN INTELLECTUAL

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The evolution of an intellectual by John Middleton Murry

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JOHN MIDDLETON MURRY

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PREFATORY NOTE

THE papers collected into this volume were written separately and for immediate publication at intervals during the last three years. Therefore they are not linked together by any deliberate scheme. Nevertheless, they are put forward as having an element of unity; as representing phases in the development of a point of view which may be of some interest, even though the interest be largely retrospective and historical; and as affording, at least, the material for the diagnosis of a movement of mind which is, I am persuaded, not wholly personal. For this reason I have been careful to present them in the order in which they were written. A more logical arrangement would, perhaps, have been possible, seeing

Prefatory Note

that they treat of subjects ostensibly so diverse as poetry and politics. But the logic would have been arbitrary; for the division between an essay on poetry and an essay on politics is less profound than the division between a man's mind after two, and the same mind after three years of the grim experience that is called the Great War.

J. M. M.

Postscript:

The majority of these essays originally appeared in *The Times' Literary Supplement*, the *Nation*, and the *Athenæum*; and I thank the editors of those journals for permission to make use of them.

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