

**THOUGHTS ON  
PRACTICAL  
REVERENCE**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649224746

Thoughts on practical reverence by Various

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)

**VARIOUS**

**THOUGHTS ON  
PRACTICAL  
REVERENCE**



THOUGHTS

ON

PRACTICAL REVERENCE

Thoughts  
ON  
Practical Reverence



WILLIAM BLACKWOOD & SONS  
EDINBURGH AND LONDON  
M.DCCC.LXIII.

100. u. 49.



THOUGHTS  
ON  
PRACTICAL REVERENCE.

---

WHILE the religious world is occupied with controversy on many unessential topics, and often becomes so excited by them that the importance of the points of conflict is unduly magnified in its eyes, and sometimes takes the place of that very God in whose service the combatants were originally striving, may it



not well be asked, Why is this? Can the Almighty Ruler of the Universe, with all its infinite variety of creeds, be supposed to look with favour on those who contend violently for their various opinions, and think they are thus doing God service? Can this be Religion? To one who professes not to possess that inestimable jewel—and who, alas! does not possess it?—but who still thinks that he is not on that account altogether disqualified for discerning its precious treasures, disguised though they may be under the incrustations and pollutions of man's device, it appears that one great inalienable

and all-pervading feature is too generally absent from what the world—even the religious world—calls Religion, and that is *Reverence*.

I have listened to many an able discourse from reverend and eloquent lips; have heard the other great essentials of Religion dilated on—Faith, Hope, Charity—with all the infinite incidents, duties, and doctrines contained within the boundless range of those three short and simple words, but I do not remember ever to have heard the attributes of *Reverence* laid down in the sense in which they occupy my mind, and command

the expression of my warmest and most earnest sympathy. Let me, then, endeavour to define what appears to me to constitute Reverence.

And, before I attempt to supply an answer to this inquiry, I would venture to dispose of some of those spurious forms of "Reverence" which pass current with the world, claim for themselves a holy character, and invite from others unquestioning assent and a blind respect. Such are the mistaken workings on the mind of man by superstition, whereby he resigns the judgment given to him by a bountiful Creator (and intended,