EVIL AND EVOLUTION: AN ATTEMPT TO TURN THE LIGHT OF MODERN SCIENCE TO THE ANCIENT MYSTERY OF EVIL

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Evil and evolution: an attempt to turn the light of modern science to the ancient mystery of evil by George Francis Millin

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GEORGE FRANCIS MILLIN

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Trieste

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AN

ATTEMPT TO TURN THE LIGHT OF MODERN SCIENCE ON TO THE ANCIENT MYSTERY

OF EVIL

EV THE AUTHOR OF

'THE SOCIAL HORIZON'

* All science starts with hypothesis

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PREFACE TO THIRD EDITION

MOST of the critics of the first and second editions of this book seem to be agreed that its argument is incomplete, and some of them say that its incompleteness practically leaves the matter it deals with precisely where it was.

Of course the author does not agree with them, but as so many of them seem to insist upon it that in its original form the book was defective and inconclusive, he has, in three additional chapters, endeavoured to the best of his ability to meet their objections and answer their questions.

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PREFACE

THE existence of evil in the world is the standing riddle of all the ages. This book is the outcome of an attempt to reconsider the subject in the light of the modern theory of Evolution. Readers of it may notice that it contains scarcely any reference to the Bible: no passages are quoted from it, no appeal is made to it. Nothing should be inferred from this as to the writer's opinion of the Bible. This book is intended for general readers, all of whom have a very vital interest in the world's sorrow and suffering, but many of whom are in doubt and perplexity as to the degree of authority to be accorded to the Bible.

The writer is convinced that if anything useful is to be said upon the matter at the present time, it can only be by bringing to bear upon the facts of the world around an eye of quiet observation, and a judgment fearless of everything but falsehood, and quite unbiassed by authorities ancient or modern. This is what he has endeavoured to do.