FRANCE, THE APOSTLE, AND THE ETHICS OF THE WAR: THREE LECTURES DELIVERED BEFORE THE ROYAL INSTITUTION OF GREAT BRITAIN, 1916-1918

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France, the Apostle, and the Ethics of the War: Three Lectures Delivered Before the Royal Institution of Great Britain, 1916-1918 by Paul Hyacinthe Loyson

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BY

PAUL HYACINTHE LOYSON

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PREFACE

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AMONG the many lectures and speeches which the author has delivered in Great Britain during the war, for the purpose of the war, he has chosen for publication the three which appear in this volume, first, for the sake of the honour done him by the Royal Institution in inviting him to address it, and, second, because the subject of these discourses is dealt with in as full and detailed a manner as the haste entailed by the duties and necessities of the time permitted.

A certain discrepancy of tone and style will be perceived between the essays. It flows from the difference in their composition and delivery. All three were delivered extempore, but the first, *France the Apostle*, was spoken in French and afterwards written out in that language and revised by the author; it has now been translated into English in order to render it more generally accessible. On the other hand, the two lectures which make up the essay, *The Ethics of the War*, were spoken by the author in English and taken down by a stenographer; and the text so recorded was afterwards retouched and enlarged by the speaker.

He desires to express his grateful thanks to the officials of the Royal Institution for the kindness

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and courtery he has experienced from them; nor can be omit to thank his friend Lady Frazer, to whom he is indebted, not only for the original suggestion of the lectures, but for the pains she has been at in editing the volume and undertaking the translation of the first essay from the French text into English.

The manuscript of this little book was sent to press during the battle of Picardy, when the noblest cause in history was face to face with the direst peril of all time. May these stray pages be accepted as an act of religious homage paid by a Frenchman to the humblest son of Britain who has given his life to that cause in defending the soil of France.

P. H. L.

May 1918.

P.S.—This volume was printed in England in June 1918, whilst the second battle of the Marne was deciding in France the fate of the world. The event proved to be the tragic illustration of the author's prevision in the latter part of these lectures. The supreme offensive of the Germans was not launched on France by the "genius" of Hindenburg, but by the treason of Lenin and the vanishing of the Russian front.

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THE ETHICS OF THE WAR

LECTURE I

THE CAUSE TRIUMPHANT

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