

**RELIGION AND THE
MODERN MIND,
AND OTHER
ESSAYS IN MODERNISM**

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Religion and the modern mind, and other essays in modernism by Frank Carleton Doan

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FRANK CARLETON DOAN

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FRANK CARLETON DOAN



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TO THE
LIBRARY OF THE
SHERMAN, FRENCH & COMPANY

TO
MY FATHER
HICKSITE QUAKER

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PREFACE

I

My good cousin asked me the other day: "For whom is your forthcoming book being written?" I was obliged to make answer: "That must remain to be seen. We'll have to wait until the book has come forth in fact." Still, as it is being thrown upon the public there is no harm in my declaring by way of preface the *good intention* of the book. What I intend is to influence you who read me understandingly to clearer and sincerer thinking upon matters which do vastly concern every sober man — matters of free religion and a modern spirit. As I have laboriously read the proof-sheets of this, my first-born book, I have remarked many an imperfection which, alas, it was all too late to correct. I do not ask the critical reader to condone these: they are, I know, inexcusable by any test you may apply. What I do ask is that you along with me should sincerely experiment with the experience of God herein recorded. For, let me assure you, it is an experience. If at any point I have seemed to write for the mere pleasure of the thing, or if for the moment I have seemed to expend my energies in worming out of my inner consciousness a *weltanschauung* amazing to the reason merely and not tolerable in terms of life; then and there I beg you to read lightly.