

**THE NEW HUMANISM:
STUDIES IN
PERSONAL AND SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT, PP. 1-237**

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The New Humanism: Studies in Personal and Social Development, pp. 1-237 by Edward Howard Griggs

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EDWARD HOWARD GRIGGS

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SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

BY

EDWARD HOWARD GRIGGS

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I.

THE SCIENTIFIC STUDY OF
THE HIGHER HUMAN LIFE

THE intellectual vitality of an epoch is determined less by the amount of accumulated knowledge than by the measure of activity and growth that is present. Certain periods, such as the Alexandrine, possessing an immense accumulation of learning, have had less intellectual life than others, like the Periclean age, when men had less erudition, but were more awakened to the hunger for truth. The possession of a vast apparatus of culture may be the opposite of an inspiration to the intellect unless the creative spirit be present. Each epoch must be fertilized anew by some fresh movement of thought, if it is to have the highest measure of intellectual life.

It is less important what form this movement takes than that in some shape it be present. In the awakening of Asia through the teaching of Buddha it lay in religion, as it did in the rebirth of Europe through the spread of Christianity, and again in the amazing conquests, no less startling intellectually than materially, of Mohammedanism. Art was its sphere in the best period of Greece, for life itself was a fine art to the Greeks, and even philosophy was affiliated as closely to art as to science. In the Italian renaissance, which connects the modern with the ancient world, it centered