

**ETHICS: AN
INTRODUCTORY MANUAL
FOR THE USE OF
UNIVERSITY STUDENTS**

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Ethics: An Introductory Manual for the Use of University Students by F. Ryland

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BY

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PREFACE.

THE object of the following pages is to give a sketch of ethical theory designed in the main on the customary English lines as laid down in the regulations of the University of London. At the same time I have not bound myself slavishly to follow those lines, but have introduced discussions on the speculations of the so-called Evolutionary school of Mr. Spencer and Mr. Leslie Stephen, and the Oxford neo-Hegelian school founded by the late T. H. Green. This course, though adding somewhat to the difficulty of the book, seems justifiable by the additional interest given to the subject. I have also ventured to suggest a revival of a more æsthetic attitude in dealing with Ethics; something more akin, as I take it, to that assumed by the Greek thinkers, from whom the science of conduct takes its origin.

In chapter i. I discuss the general scope and method of the science; in chapters ii. and iii. the principal concepts of the science are dealt with, viz., Good and Right and their dependent categories. In chapters iv. and v. the various Hedonistic and anti-Hedonistic theories are explained and criticised.

Chapter vi. is devoted to a consideration of some of the chief psychological questions involved in Ethics. In chapter vii. various classifications of the excellences of conduct are discussed. Chapter viii. is mainly devoted to the relation between Ethics, Theology, and Law. Chapter ix. gives a short historical account of the chief English moralists. In the Appendix will be found full directions as to further and wider reading, and the questions set in the subject at the London B.A. examination during the last ten years.

A few pages have been taken almost verbatim from the second part of my "Handbook of Psychology and Ethics."

It only remains for me to thank my friend Mr. Joseph Jacobs for reading through the proofs and making several suggestions which will add to the practical value of the book.

PURNEY,

December, 1892.