THE COMPLETE WORKS OF GEORGE ELIOT. IMPRESSIONS OF THEOPHRASTUS SUCH: MISCELLANEOUS ESSAYS

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649755929

The Complete Works of George Eliot. Impressions of Theophrastus Such: Miscellaneous Essays by George Eliot

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd. Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

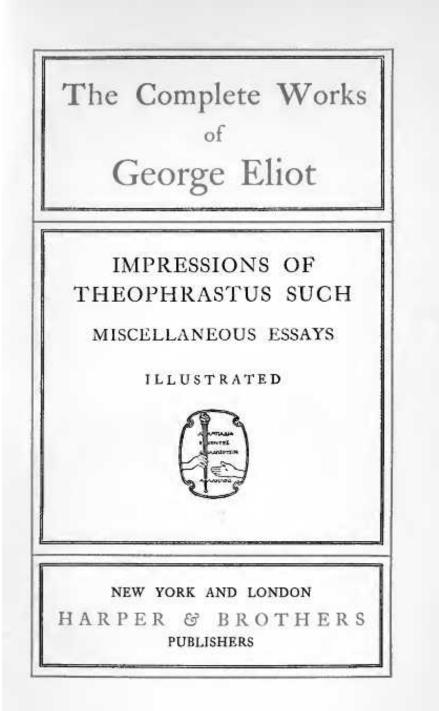
GEORGE ELIOT

THE COMPLETE WORKS OF GEORGE ELIOT. IMPRESSIONS OF THEOPHRASTUS SUCH: MISCELLANEOUS ESSAYS

Trieste

ESSAYS OF GEORGE ELIOT.





BRLF URL 1944

Sproul Hall, Library PR 4650 A1 Vol. 8

CONTENTS.

IMPRESSIONS OF THEOPHRASTUS SUCH.

LOOKING INWARD	. 1
LOOKING BACKWARD	. 16
How we encourage Research	. 34
A MAN SURPRISED AT HIS ORIGINALITY	. 51
A TOO DEFERENTIAL MAN	. 61
ONLY TEMPER	
	. 79
THE WATCH-DOG OF KNOWLEDGE	. 84
A HALF-BREED	
DEBASING THE MORAL CURRENCY	
THE WASP CREDITED WITH THE HONEY-COMB	
"So Young!"	
How we come to give ourselves False Testinos	
IALS, AND BELIEVE IN THEM	
THE TOO READY WRITER	E-202
DISEASES OF SMALL AUTHORSHIP	
Moral Swindlers	. 165
SHADOWS OF THE COMING RACE	. 176
THE MODERN HEP! HEP!	

MISCELLANEOUS ESSAYS.

GERMAN WIT:	HEINRICH	HEINE		÷.	•			217
	(Westmit	oster Bovie	ew, 1856.)					
THE NATURAL		GERMA		: Rı	EHL		e	272
THREE MONTH		R · ·		• •	•	•	•	318

ILLUSTRATIONS

STATUE OF GOETHE	19	82	•	*		\mathbf{e}_{i}		a.	Frontispiece		
PORTRAIT OF HEINE											
VENUS DE MILO .	12		2	•	•	X	÷		٠	•	252
PORTRAIT OF GORTIU											880

IMPRESSIONS OF THEOPHRASTUS SUCH.

LOOKING INWARD.

IT is my habit to give an account to myself of the characters I meet with; can I give any true account of my own? I am a bachelor, without domestic distractions of any sort, and have all my life been an attentive companion to myself, flattering my nature agreeably on plausible occasions, reviling it rather bitterly when it mortified me; and in general remembering its doings and sufferings with a tenacity which is too apt to raise surprise, if not disgust, at the careless inaccuracy of my acquaintances, who impute to me opinions I never held, express their desire to convert me to my favourite ideas, forget whether I have ever been to the East, and are capable of being three several times astonished at my never having told them before of my accident in the Alps, causing me the nervous shock which has ever since notably diminished my digestive powers. Surely I ought to know myself better than these indifferent outsiders can know me; nay, better even than my intimate friends, to whom I have never breathed those items of my inward experience which have chiefly shaped my life.

Yet I have often been forced into the reflection that even the acquaintances who are as forgetful vol. 1.--1

ESSAYS OF GEORGE ELIOT.

of my biography and tenets as they would be if I were a dead philosopher, are probably aware of certain points in me which may not be included in my most active suspicion. We sing an exquisite passage out of tune, and innocently repeat it for the greater pleasure of our hearers. Who can be aware of what his foreign accent is in the ears of a native? And how can a man be conscious of that dull perception which causes him to mistake altogether what will make him agreeable to a particular woman, and to persevere eagerly in a behaviour which she is privately recording against him? I have had some confidences, from my female friends, as to their opinion of other men, whom I have observed trying to make themselves amiable; and it has occurred to me that, though I can hardly be so blundering as Lippus, and the rest of those mistaken candidates for favour whom I have seen ruining their chance by a too elaborate personal canvass. I must still come under the common fatality of mankind, and share the liability to be absurd without knowing that I am absurd. It is in the nature of foolish reasonings to seem good to the foolish reasoner. Hence, with all possible study of myself, with all possible effort to escape from the pitiable illusion which makes men laugh, shriek, or curl the lip at Folly's likeness, in total unconsciousness that it resembles themselves. I am obliged to recognize that, while there are secrets in me unguessed by others, these others have certain items of knowledge about the extent of my powers, and the figure I make with them, which in turn are secrets unguessed by me. When I was a lad I danced a hornpipe with arduous scrupulosity, and while suffering pangs of pallid shyness, was yet

2