

**MEMORIALS OF
THEOPHILUS
TRINAL, STUDENT**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649364954

Memorials of Theophilus Trinal, student by Thomas T. Lynch

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THOMAS T. LYNCH

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BY THOMAS T. LYNCH.

Second Edition.

"God hath not given us the spirit of Fear, but of Power, of Love, and
of a Sound Mind." PAUL.

LONDON :
LONGMAN, BROWN, GREEN, AND LONGMANS.

MDCCCLIII.

P R E F A C E

TO THE SECOND EDITION.

I COULD not write a Preface to the first edition of this Book. It was better to let such a Book of the Heart speak for itself. I could not have said about it what would satisfy myself or any one else ; and I might have spoken with awkward and tremulous intensity, or with an appearance of pride. For I felt the faults of the Book ; felt, too, its worth, and knew that it was part of the fruit of much arduous Thinking, and other Endeavour, continued through many years. Valuable and endeared to me, how could I but wish it might be so to others ? Yet to solicit favour or to ask abatement of censure I should have thought alike vain and dishonouring. But now that the Book has found favour and friends, and is going forth again, not sanguine, but with the hope of fresh life and extended friendship, I may say a word ; if

only to express my thankfulness that Trinal's Verse and Prose have been so well received, and my hope that these Memorials will, as a Hand-book for the Practically Meditative, so help minister composure and suggestion, that their many editorial and other defects may be, not forgotten, but forgiven for the sake of what they offer.

There is much in these pages that will win its way to the "understanding heart" at once, if at all: but there are, also, what to many will seem "dark sayings;" and of these I venture to hope that they are as Dark Lanthorns, and that Attention, as the touch of a spring, may open and win from them a friendly and useful light.—The Book too may seem, as one private critic and wise friend says, "all middle," and it has indeed neither the methodic form of Treatise nor Story; it is rather a book Aphoristic in manner and style; and asks for itself the benefit of these words from Lord Bacon: "Aphorisms, representing a knowledge broken, do invite men to inquire farther; whereas methods, carrying the show of a total, do secure men, as if they were at farthest." Trinal is no mere disintegrator; in Theology he is Reconstructive; in all Thought aims to be Reconciliative, a Harmonist. And such are the tendencies of these Memorials. "The negative work of the Iconoclast," he writes too, "is not the only or the highest negative

work. The Statuary is negative with his chisel. The Iconoclast says, "Thou shalt not be," and shatters what is worthless and delusive with his hammer. The Statuary says to each chip of marble, "Thou shalt not be here," but he removes it under the guidance of an existent Positive Idea, and one that may perfect itself in process of the work. He acts Negatively, but Creatively too."

Something is hinted of theologic writings in the afterword of these Memorials. And the editor must say that there has been no intermission of theologic labours since the first edition of the book was issued, and that he hopes before long to publish something of a reconciliative, reconstructive kind, that may be considered the joint production of Trinal and himself. Some persons have thought indeed that the editor of the Book must be himself the Theophilus of its pages. But he can truly say that the susceptible, yet resolute and patient Trinal, often foiled, often failing, but still striving towards sedate equanimity of life and act, is one to whom he cannot equal his own every-day self, and of whom he is still very thankful to learn.

The Book has been touched throughout with the revising pencil; the contents of the latter chapters have been re-arranged; and besides the Prelude of Poems, and this Preface, there are several Poetic, and a few Prose additions: in all about a dozen new pieces of

Verse and half a dozen of Prose. I have thus tried to improve the Work as much as I could; leaving the character of it unaltered, and not materially increasing the size. And now, with the hope that the Reader may find the Verse and Prose, as Trinal has it,

“Twins, a sister and a brother,
Each the dearer for the other,”

and commending to his attention these other words of Trinal’s—“Prose is the Ship of my soul: Verse, the Life-boat. I had been lost often, but for the Life-boat, Give me the Ship for company and cargo, but not without the Boat for safety, my companions’ and my own,”—

THE EDITOR

BIDS HIM FOR THE PRESENT

FAREWELL.

*Camden Road, London,
May, 1853.*

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