

**A HISTORY OF THE
SCIENCES. HISTORY OF
PSYCHOLOGY: A SKETCH
AND AN INTERPRETATION**

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A History of the Sciences. History of Psychology: A Sketch and an Interpretation by James Mark Baldwin

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ARISTOTLE.

[Frontispiece

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A HISTORY OF THE SCIENCES

HISTORY
OF
PSYCHOLOGY

A SKETCH AND AN INTERPRETATION

BY

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Volume One

From the Earliest Times to John Locke

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS

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To
EZEQUIEL A. CHÁVEZ
PROFESSOR, DEPUTY, FORMERLY UNDER-SECRETARY
OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION AND FINE ARTS IN
MEXICO; A ZEALOUS PATRIOT, A
PROFOUND SCHOLAR, AND
A LOYAL FRIEND

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PREFACE

THE proposal to prepare the History of Psychology for this series appealed to me for other than the usual reasons. In the first place, singular as it may seem, there is no history of psychology of any kind in book form in the English language.¹ Some years ago, I projected as Editor a series of historical works to be written by various authorities on central psychological topics, the whole to constitute a "Library of Historical Psychology." These works, some twelve in number, are in course of preparation, and certain of them are soon to appear; but up to now no one of them has seen the light. The present little work of course in no way duplicates any of these.

In French, too, there is no independent history. The German works, of which there are several,² had become somewhat old when

¹ Since this was written the *History of Psychology, Ancient and Patristic*, by G. E. Brett (1912), has appeared; and Prof. Dessoir's *Abriss*, mentioned below, has been translated into English.

² The titles are given in the list of "Sources" at the end of Vol. II.

last year two short histories appeared, written by Prof. Dessoir and Dr. Klemm. I refer to these again just below.

Another reason of a personal character for my entering this field is worth mentioning, since it explains the scope and method of the present sketch. I had already prepared much of the same material for a course of sixteen lectures, given in my capacity of Special Professor in the School of Higher Studies of the National University of Mexico (April to June, 1912). These lectures have been entirely made over, in being thrown into book form; but the original purpose appears both in the plan and in the essential idea ruling the historical interpretation itself. The point of view adopted—that of a parallelism between racial reflection and individual thought, which leads to an account of the history of psychology considered as the rise and interpretation of the mind-term¹ in the dualism of mind and body—this point of view I have been interested in carrying out. The merely narrative sort of history-writing—useful as its results are—makes no appeal to many, among whom I count myself. In a subject like psychology it is peculiarly futile, since the views and theories of men

¹ It leads to the consideration of physical science as the development of the theory of the matter-term of the same dualism, a correlation merely hinted at in certain places in passing.